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The Librarian and Public Taste

Edwin L. Shuman, literary editor, *Record Herald, Chicago*

II

There are two good tests of a book's moral soundness—the author's attitude toward evil and good, and the final effect of the book upon the reader. Zola's "L'Assommoir" is abominably unpleasant, and in this respect it is poor art, but it is not a book that will lure any one to embrace the evil it portrays. Its morals are redeemed by the author's evident and infectious hatred of the vice he is picturing. On the other hand, Mr H. G. Wells' recent novel, "Ann Veronica," which has nothing particularly offensive in it, is essentially immoral, because it represents its heroine as running off with another woman's husband and living happily ever afterward. In reading Mr Wells' story, a young girl of immature judgment might very naturally be led to admire Ann Veronica's course, perhaps to imitate it, for the author sets upon it every mark of his approval. The book is false to life, for girls who run away with married renegades usually find anything but idyllic happiness; and its immorality consists in the plausible putting of this lie—in the author's wrong attitude toward good and evil.

Morality in art depends not on the subject, but on the treatment, the spirit of the author. No book can be more pure in heart than "The scarlet letter." It is all a matter of the light in which the good and evil are presented, the meanings and emotions that the author causes them to convey to the reader.

English and American fiction for a century has been extremely reticent, not

to say prudish, in its treatment of sex questions; but since the appearance of Hardy's "Tess of the D'Urbervilles" and "Jude the Obscure," there has been a somewhat startling tendency toward greater frankness. The situation is fairly hit off by the current jest concerning the care that daughters have to take in choosing the books which their mothers may read.

The question here, to a certain extent, is a matter of taste rather than of morals. The literature of all continental Europe is more outspoken than ours, thus often offending our taste, but this fact in itself does not make such books immoral. Tolstoy, in "Anna Karénina," says a few things that we would leave unsaid, but the intense moral earnestness of the author makes itself felt throughout the book. The same theme, in the hands of an artist who lacked a sense of moral values, would probably become immoral. The sense of right and wrong shown by Gustave Flaubert in his great novel, "Madame Bovary," is less sure-footed than Tolstoy's, and I do not say that I would put this book into every public library, but "Madame Bovary" is certainly not a novel that would lure people into sinning as Emma Bovary sinned. It is not an immoral novel, though it is a book for mature readers only. On the other hand, many of the skillfully told tales of Guy de Maupassant are flagrantly immoral. Where a Tolstoy is filled with a desire for the welfare of his fellow men and women, a Moore or a Maupassant usually is not. We feel a moral law underlying and giving intelligent direction to events in Tolstoy's novels, as we do in those of George Eliot; but

we feel the absence of any such law in the average French novel of illicit love. The whole matter is fairly covered by the test question, "Does the book leave any kind of wholesome or fine feeling in the mind of one who reads it?"

It is in the department of children's books that the moral test becomes most vitally important. To uncultured adult taste we can safely concede a good deal, for the characters of grown people are already formed and not readily influenced by false ethics or base suggestion; but the characters of boys and girls are as impressionable as wax, and the impress received now will help to make or mar their lives and benefit or injure the community. In this department, therefore, the librarian finds one of her greatest responsibilities—and also one of her greatest opportunities to leave the world a little better than she found it.

In the two months before Christmas each year, there is a tremendous outpouring of juvenile books of all sorts and for all ages. How shall the librarian know the good from the bad, even of those she reads? To what extent shall a boy's taste for bloody adventure or a girl's taste for mawkish sentiment be gratified? In the first place it must be recognized that these tastes have their roots in something sound and vital in boy and girl nature—in qualities which, if rightly trained, are going to develop into manly courage and mother love. Even the strictest librarians now recognize that something must be conceded to the savage phase through which the normal boy passes between 8 and 14, and that it is wise to supply him with at least a few books of the sort known as "stepping stones," books of stirring deeds higher than the dime novel and yet lower than the best, so far as their art is concerned. The same, I suppose, is true of girls' books in the parallel plane of highflown romantic sentiment. Miss Frances Olcott, formerly of the Carnegie school for librarians, in her recent and excellent treatise on "The children's reading," says that the young girl "should be kept as long as possible in the high realm of

romance into which her natural instincts, if encouraged, will lead her, so that, when judgment is mature, she may return thence 'trailing clouds of glory' from the world of romantic ideals, which will help her to meet in a nobler and truer fashion the problems of practical life." I would put in a similar plea for the boys' kind of romance, the romance of perilous deeds and hard fighting. Let him, too, dream his dreams and develop his imagination in the only way possible for him, in order that he may be capable of great enterprises and noble manhood visions when his boyhood days are gone forever.

That good juvenile fiction does good is as certain as that bad juvenile fiction causes infinite harm. Wherein lies the difference, and how shall we know it? We may leave the questions of sex morality out of this discussion entirely, for they scarcely affect children. A normal child will glide unconsciously over frank passages in Shakespeare or the Bible—or even in such works as Sterne's "Tristram Shandy"—without being at all aware that the ice was thin. The danger lies elsewhere—in the effect of books upon the young reader's ideals of action.

The really vicious juvenile books are those which poison the young reader's mind with false standards of life and action by creating admiration for things and persons essentially base. The nickel and dime novels which boys still devour on the sly are not the only bad books of this kind. Some of them attain to cloth covers and the imprint of reputable publishers. As one conscientious publisher remarks, "Many a parent who would promptly take John out to the woodshed if he learned that the boy was collecting dime novels, himself frequently adds to John's library a book quite as bad." The daring adventures of criminals, detectives and other ignoble heroes are usually of this class. During the vogue, two or three years ago, of Raffles, a so-called gentleman cracksmen, who figured in fiction and on the cheap stage, the police stations in Chicago reported a notable sprinkling of youthful criminals whose attempts at theft and housebreaking were

directly traceable to this source of inspiration. Authors who let their heroes win by means of lying, trickery and deceit, also are undermining the characters of youthful readers. Too many writers of the school and athletic stories that are now in such high favor with boys are marred by depicting the boy hero in a conflict with a teacher, the boy being always represented as the wiser and better of the two. You will find no such false note in "Tom Brown's school days." In fact the low-grade juvenile novel almost always has its hero in opposition to some older person, and the hero is always proved right. The parent or guardian or unpopular teacher is invariably in the wrong. Does it require a prophet to predict what the effect of such books will be upon a boy's respect for discipline?

The problem of what the librarian shall concede to juvenile taste is now approaching a more definite answer. So far as the line between the allowable and the undesirable is concerned—on the artistic side—I should say it lies somewhere between the books of Henty and those of Stratemeyer. Henty's historical romances are by no means masterpieces, and their similarity soon begins to pall on the boys themselves, but they deal with history in a legitimate romantic style, and experience has shown that boys who read the Henty novels and others of that grade soon acquire a taste for straight history and biography. Stratemeyer's books, which are tremendously popular with boys, are of questionable influence, owing not so much to moral defects as to a general cheapness typified in their slangy vocabulary. A library is just as well off without books of this class. Their sensationalism and improbabilities of action are a waste of the boy's time, and he can be led to enjoy better things.

The natural boy, being objective by nature, desires stories of athletics, of daring adventures, thrilling escapes by land or sea; also the doings of what he calls "gangs," whether they be those of sensible Boy Scouts on a camping expedition or those of vicious outlaws,

pirates or robber bands. His craving for exciting action should be fed, but only with books that place the accent on high ideals, that inculcate honor and moral courage, not by platitudes which the boy will skip, but by the rewards and punishments meted out in the action and climax of the story itself. The line should be drawn against any book that condones or indirectly encourages vice of any kind, disloyalty, thieving, deception, moral cowardice, or that takes a weak sentimental attitude toward boyish dishonor or misdeeds, excusing them on the ground that "boys will be boys." One object of boys' books is to teach them to become good men, and the wrong handling of moral situations only defeats that end. Not that I have any more use for goody-goody, namby-pamby stories than the boys have, who scorn them. The point is simply that the difference between good and evil should make itself felt in the very atmosphere of a boy's book.

The experienced librarian usually gives a comparatively small representation to the popular juvenile writers of the hour and places a high value upon well written versions of the old classics and medieval romance cycles—stories such as "The knights of the Round Table," "The battle of Roncevalles," "The slaying of Fafnir," and the like, as well as many a hero tale from Greek mythology. These long-tried stories from the adolescent epoch of nations have great value in the education of young people when shaped to our later moral standards. "They draw youthful altruistic aspiration toward an ideal goal—where treachery, cruelty, cowardice and falsehood are shown in their blackness, and where the unstained shield of the faithful knight is preferred above all things."

Up to the age of 10 or 12, the tastes of boys and girls are a good deal alike, and in our day there is a rapidly increasing wealth of good stories for them, from the immortal Bible tales, which are the highest and finest of all, to scores of good miscellanies such as Sarah Cone Bryant's recent volume of "Best stories to tell

children." But after the age of 10 or 12, the girl, becoming more subjective, begins to prefer quieter books than those that her brother most affects, stories of play, of girl groups, of home and school life, books in which introspection and questions of conscience have some part, and in which self-castigation over small sins and misunderstandings often is too much in evidence. As she grows older she enjoys simple love stories of a romantic nature. She adores a hero who by devotion and courage wins his bride, and she is right; it is not pure love stories that will harm any girl, however young. She is ready for romantic sentiment years before a normal boy cares for it. An office boy of 15 years came to me the other day and repeated with gusto the blood-curdling portions of a cattle-king story of the West, which he had just read in *Harper's Weekly*, and added: "And then they was married"—screwing his nose up to an angle of disdain—"and that's the way they all end—full o' mush!" A girl of 15 would have enjoyed the part that he disdained, and would have wrinkled her nose over the part that he thought was fine. The instinct of both is normal and should be respected by librarians.

The harm for girls, as for boys, lurks in books built on cheap or false ideals—snobbish books that teach a girl to admire mean things meanly—sycophantic books that exalt a heroine not according to her character but according to her clothes and the number of automobiles her father possesses—books that think lightly of white lies and teach the art of slanderous gossip. The girl started upon juvenile tales of this sort naturally graduates into the cheap fiction of Mary J. Holmes, or begins a course in Mrs Southworth's 85 more or less trashy novels, or aspires—for a time at least—to spend the rest of her life on the inane heroics of the 375 volumes of Bertha M. Clay. On the other hand, the girl who learns in childhood to appreciate the sane, high-minded stories of Louisa M. Alcott will in due time take naturally to wholesome fiction such as that of Rosa Nouchette Carey,

Clara Louise Burnham, Amelia E. Barr, Margaret Prescott Montague and their peers. Miss Montague's novel, "Linda," by the way, is one of the best of recent books for older girls and young women.

Every book of cheap ideals helps to make a cheap boy or girl, to lower the moral tone, to coarsen the character fiber, to cheat the reader out of his heritage and to injure the public welfare. Judge Lindsey of Denver, whose work of juvenile reform has been a noble example, tells of a gang of boys in his court who had hundreds of sensational stories hidden in an attic. These trashy tales, he believes, had much to do with misdirecting the energy and spirit of adventure in these boys.

The spectacular criminals in Chicago whose deeds are blazoned every week or two under the romantic name of automobile bandits are mostly ordinary young fellows whose craving for adventure takes this vicious channel, probably owing to the reiterated suggestion of cheap and nasty newspapers and moving picture shows. Evil reading in one form or another is doing incalculable harm to the young. This is a part of the price we are paying daily for a free press. But the printed page is as potent for good as for ill, and it is one of the greatest privileges of the librarian to help along its beneficent influence upon the young.

A good test of any book is to read it aloud with a friend whose judgment you esteem. The mere uttering of the words in such a presence will usually reveal whatever is false or absurd. Edward W. Mumford, in an address before the American booksellers' association, said: "One boy was cured of the dime novel habit by making him read one aloud. He was really ashamed to give open expression to its improbabilities and cheap heroics. The glamour of many a modern juvenile would fade under this severe test." Mr Mumford likewise stated that two-thirds of our people—say sixty millions—live in communities where the bookstores offer nothing but cheap and cheapening stories for children, or where better things are rarely found in stock.

It is against this condition of things that the librarian must strive.

Little can be done without help in the homes and schools, but deleterious books can be kept out of the libraries, and children can gradually be led to read and prefer good ones. Where a children's free library was opened recently in a city notorious for its flashy nickel shockers, the shockers soon began to disappear from the shop windows. Dealers confessed that it no longer paid them to keep this trash in stock. The librarian also can help parents in the right choice of gifts by publishing lists of good juvenile books a few weeks before Christmas, either in wall bulletins, in circulars, or in the columns of the local paper.

Let me close this part of our subject by quoting Frances Olcott's advice to parents who are anxious about what their children may be reading in secret:

Shut off, by legislation if possible, all sources supplying weak or bad fiction; but first see to it that your community establishes a children's free library department, no matter how small and modest. Let it be stocked with books selected by approved educational standards, and put no restrictions upon the free use of books, except such rules as insure proper care of public property. If funds permit, put the department in charge of a children's librarian, pedagogically trained for that work, and who knows not only children's literature, but also the modern approved methods of introducing children to good reading. Let her conduct story-hours and reading clubs, and encourage her to co-operate with both parents and teachers. A sunny, cheerful reading room filled with interesting books—good modern ones generously duplicated—quickly becomes the natural rendezvous for the neighborhood children. They spend many hours in absorbed reading in their own comfortable quarters, which hours might otherwise be wasted in "riotous living" on the streets, or in reading yellow fiction in some secluded corner.

(Concluded in July.)

"There is nothing more pitiable in the world than an irresolute man, oscillating between two feelings, who would willingly unite the two, and who does not perceive that nothing can unite the two."
—Goethe.

Specialization Among Library Schools

Frank K. Walter, Vice-director, New York State library school, Albany.

Although the claims of librarianship to consideration as a profession may as yet be unsettled, it is certainly following in the lead of recognized professions like law and medicine, in that every year library work is becoming more highly organized, more special lines of work develop and the demand for librarians and assistants with special qualifications and special training increases.

Assuming for the sake of argument that this unmistakable demand for specialized or, perhaps, more accurately, differentiated technical training will continue and that like general library training it is desirable to have it given in library schools rather than picked up at random outside, there seem to be two general methods of reaching the desired result: (1) by minutely divided courses in the different library schools, each attempting as it best can to give the same kind and variety of courses that other schools do; or (2) a division of the field among the different schools each developing the lines on which it can do the best work and leaving to other schools the special work in which their results are superior.

Under present conditions, it is not likely that any attempt on the part of any one school to include many specialties in its curriculum would be even measurably successful. The faculties of all the schools are already too small for the variety of subjects now taught and the courses are all too short. The peripatetic lecturer available for all the schools is a partial but only a partial solution. No non-resident lecturer can ever quite take the place of a competent resident instructor. The demand for specialist librarians is as yet too limited and fitful to justify either the employment of many special instructors or to encourage the attendance of many students intending to devote their time solely to specialties. The whole movement would resemble the attempt of many small colleges to expand themselves into universi-

ties by faculty fiat and by increasing the size of their catalogs, and the fate of the unduly ambitious school would be like unto that of the frog of classic fame who tried to swell himself up to the size of an ox.

The second method, that of dividing the field between different schools, has more in its favor. It has its parallel in the way in which universities by virtue of location or special equipment or peculiarly gifted faculty members, have made themselves noted in special lines of education or research. Something has already been done along these lines in library schools. The training school of the Carnegie library at Pittsburgh is the recognized leader in training for work with children; the library school of the University of Wisconsin has developed plans for work in small libraries which other library schools are glad to copy. The new Normal course at the Pratt Institute library school and the course in law and legislative reference work at the New York state library school are other recent attempts along this line.

So far as I am aware, only one library school at present is conducted primarily to meet the needs of a definite section, although the proposed schools on the Pacific Coast have sectional needs chiefly in view. The desire to have library training within easy reach is justifiable but it would be unfortunate if specialization in function should develop very generally along local or sectional rather than subject lines. Unlike the law the *corpus* of library science is not codified from the point of view of local practices and precedents and the interchange of librarians from different sections is necessary to keep the library movement national. Professional inbreeding is never beneficial if carried to excess.

On the other hand, specialization in a limited number of different subjects of library technique by different schools is not likely to injure the interests of any good school. Under present conditions at least, the demand for young men and women with general training will be far

greater than the demand for those with more limited training along special lines. The schools whose greatest success lies along general training would be relieved of the burden of attempting to provide for a small and uncertain number of students who do not fit into the general work and all the schools would be relieved of the burden of attempting to provide everything for everybody.

Several substantial obstacles stand in the way of such division of work and the greatest care would be necessary to prevent a lowering of the general standard of library training. Under no conditions should the specialization develop into "short cuts" or exemption from broad preliminary education. As the pleasant features of library work are becoming better known, more people are desiring to become librarians. Unfortunately, the desire is often accompanied by a more or less unsuccessful career in other lines and by an insistent demand that the period of technical preparation be shortened to permit the applicant to enter quickly into competition with those who have taken time to prepare themselves properly even though the applicant for short and easy courses present little or no special fitness for library work or previous experience or education fitting for such work. It is quite probable that library school courses need overhauling, that different relative values be assigned to different subjects and that greater elective freedom be allowed, but this overhauling is not likely to be done best by interested applicants for credit without work or by librarians unwilling to pay for thoroughly trained assistants or by students who desire the library school to help meet deficiencies in general education. "Special privilege" is as dangerous to library schools as to political parties and should be granted only when its justice is undeniable from the result on the public as well as from the student's standpoint.

No school should ever be encouraged to specialize until it has demonstrated its ability to give general training satisfactorily, nor should it give "cultural"

courses to the exclusion of technique in its broad sense. Law and medicine are more highly specialized than librarianship is ever likely to be, but neither lawyer nor physician is likely to become an eminent specialist by neglecting general professional training. The best engineering schools for special engineers are those whose general courses are the strongest.

The division of the field, if attempted, should be done by the schools themselves and to ensure successful specialization, the utmost good fellowship between the schools must prevail. Cases will certainly arise in which every school, however high its repute, will under such a plan be obliged to advise prospective or even present students to go elsewhere for their special training. Petty jealousy and partisanship must disappear as far as the frailty of human nature will permit.

This, in turn, would require a much closer approach to standardization than at present exists. Uniformity in course would be out of the question but there could be agreement on definition so that the terms used in the catalog of one school would mean at least approximately the same as the same terms used in the catalogs of other schools and due credit in this way be given by each school to work done elsewhere. This would not only promote interchange of students but would greatly aid in the division of subjects into elementary and advanced units and would permit varying emphasis in the case of individual students. At present each school feels it more or less necessary to cover or scramble over as much ground as other schools do.

Lastly, there must be enough demand for the specialties offered to ensure at least a reasonable chance that the students taking them will get employment along their chosen lines. A temporary desire on the part of a few libraries for assistants with peculiar training for peculiar conditions which have little chance of duplication elsewhere is not enough. Courses whose continuance is not assured beyond the immediate present are a hin-

drance, not a help, and are an evidence that the faculty of that school have not rightly interpreted the signs of the times. It will therefore be necessary that librarians in general support the efforts of the schools to give them just what they need in the way of technical training and that the schools be progressive but conservatively progressive, reflecting the changes of real import but leaving to libraries the testing of the fads of the moment so that the courses offered may be in response to a real need.

Re-registration

Maud van Buren, Wisconsin library commission, Madison.

In preparing this paper on re-registration I have presupposed that the original record of the borrower is complete—that application blanks are properly filled out and alphabetically filed and that the registration book contains at least the *date of registration* and the *borrowers' names and addresses*.

As most libraries estimate three-fourths of their book losses due to incorrect addresses and lack of knowledge of the borrowers on the part of the library, the necessity for an accurate record of library users is readily seen. To avoid unpleasant and expensive complications the library must exercise vigilant oversight in sending for overdue books. Deaths, removals, non-use of cards are important items in the everyday work of the careful librarian. Old libraries in which these records have been neglected require a complete re-registration.

Then there is the greater ease in charging when registration numbers are small. In small and medium sized libraries there need not be more than four figures at most. When 9999 is reached, start again with number 1.

There are two simple methods of keeping registration records up to date: re-registration by block and continuous re-registration by date. In case of an old library requiring reorganization, re-registration by block is recommended. Briefly, the method is as follows:

Take the first 100 names in the registration book.

Withdraw the corresponding application cards from the file.

Alphabet these 100 cards.

Withdraw the corresponding readers' cards from the alphabetical file of readers' cards.

Destroy the readers' cards unless bearing fines unpaid. These may be outlawed by a period of time. If they are recent, keep them on file and see that the fine is paid before the new card is issued.

Until the fine is paid file the application card and the reader's card with all cards not yet renewed.

Make new cards for all new applications known to be in use and having correct address and not under penalty of fine. Verify the address from the telephone or city directory.

Many libraries require a new signature of the applicant thus renewing by his own request.

Enter in the new registration book, numbering from 1, or in the old book in regular order, both the renewed and the new names.

If the old application card is retained draw a line through the old number and write the new number.

Do not enter names of persons unknown.

Do not enter names of persons with incorrect address.

Do not enter names that have changed by marriage until corrected or verified by the applicant himself or herself.

Many readers' cards will be out in use. Fix in mind the number 100 or whatever the limit may be, and recall or catch as they come in all readers' cards falling within this series of numbers.

Destroy these and make new readers' cards.

Refile in regular order the application cards renewed and the new readers' cards made. Keep the remainder in a separate file of cards not yet renewed. Readers' cards bearing fines are kept here also.

Time limits in libraries are written as 2 years, 3 weeks.

When a request is made for a card falling within the group already re-registered, if the new card is not in the regular file of new registrations, look through those applications and readers' cards *not yet renewed* and find the card wanted. Renew this as above.

When the old registration has been brought up to the time limit, then re-registration is continuous as follows:

The term of a card's use is usually 2, 3, or 5 years, depending on the shifting population and the character of the city. In most small places a borrower's card expires in 5 years. This limit is recommended unless local conditions require a more frequent re-registration.

When re-registration is continuous all the cards are never canceled at one time, but re-registration is made by date. For example, those numbers registered in November, 1906, are re-registered in November, 1909, if a three-year limit is set, or in November, 1911, if a five-year limit. It is customary to send postals to those whose cards have expired, asking them to call at the library and have their cards renewed.

By this method, the expiration of cards and re-registration are in progress continually. The registration file is watched constantly, and kept in good order. This method has the advantage of insuring an evenness of work. Every month has its own share of the work and complications are not so likely to arise.

To save annoyance to the reader during registration, a temporary card may be used or books may be issued on the old card once while the new card is being made out.

Many libraries have discarded the registration book altogether and have substituted a numerical file of cards. In this case there are two files of cards, one alphabetical and one numerical, each serving as an index to the other. Re-registration is somewhat simplified by this plan as follows:

Take out the desired block of names from the numerical file. Alphabet these and withdraw the corresponding names from the alphabetical file. Re-register

only such as are in *use* and refile the cards as before. All cards not renewed are kept in two files: 1) Removed; 2) Uncalled for. Keep these as long as seems to be needed. They may be destroyed at the end of two years at the most. A report on withdrawals is easily computed from these files.

When registration is kept in order by the continuous method, the monthly report is accurate as to the number of persons withdrawn, the number of names renewed, and the number of new entries.

Once a year at least the files should be examined and the cards of those who have become non-users of the library by death or removal, should be drawn out, even though they have not yet expired.

Outline of Methods Used to Make Our Library "Go"

Wm. Foote Seward, librarian, Binghamton public library.

The library has the latest approved books for every business, trade and craft in Binghamton.

Specialists in the various departments of industrialism called into consultation and suggestions invited for the purchase of books. Technical catalogs kept on file for use of the public.

Library bulletin boards, placed in shops and factories and Y. M. C. A., and announcements changed from time to time.

Lists of new books on technical and business subjects sent to labor unions, shops, factories and merchants.

Also, monthly, titles of articles of local interest in the technical magazines are distributed in like manner.

Traveling libraries sent to shops and factories.

An attractive circular, calling attention to the opportunities presented by the library to the wage-earner, has been placed through the coöperation of employers, in thousands of pay envelopes. The circular, with two folds, fits in the regulation size pay envelope. A man pays attention to what is in his pay envelope.

At the sub-stations and fire stations, lists of books particularly for men are posted.

Lists and reviews of new books (including technical) published in newspapers weekly.

Library has a booth at the city's annual industrial exposition and distributes thousands of cards calling attention to the library opportunities.

The Vocational guidance committee (appointed by the Mayor) has its headquarters at the library (Librarian, chairman of the committee). Vocational guidance bookshelf. Vocational guidance talks include such themes as "The civil engineer—his work, education, pay," "Practical studies in mechanical engineering," "The teacher," etc.

At the beginning of school year, the children's librarian visits the schools and gives a talk on "How to use a library"; and the chief librarian gives a series of talks (usually on American history) before the upper grades. That is, library opportunities are personally presented to several thousand young people in the public schools and through them to their parents.

Library has collections of books in Slovak and Italian for many people of those races living in Binghamton. The members of the Armenian colony have asked for books in their tongue.

The free lecture course includes themes for men—electricity, the air brake, local water supply, work of the weather bureau, and a series of 11 lectures, with lantern slides on advertising, prepared by experts.

Library opportunities are presented in addresses by chief librarian before Chamber of Commerce, men's clubs, at the Sunday evening service in many churches, before merchants' and advertisers' association, teachers' association, real estate dealers' association, women's clubs, etc. Also illustrated travel talks in library sub-stations neighborhoods.

Manifolded reading lists naming best books on the subject presented, issued in connection with lectures at the library and in the city.

Special lists sent to study clubs and Sunday schools.

Socialization of the Library

"The socialization of the library" is the subject approved by the Indiana library association for discussion at the district meetings that are to be held in the 10 library districts of the state. The district secretaries have all been instructed to prepare their informal programs so that they will revolve around this main theme.

"It will readily be seen," reads the report of the committee of which Mr Milam of the commission is ex-official chairman, "that this is not a narrow subject but that it does, nevertheless, suggest a definite tendency.

The library that has passed its first birthday is old enough to begin thinking about special kinds of service. Whether situated in a country town or a large industrial center, there is a definite work to be accomplished by the public library as a social factor in the community. It must not be content with simply buying 'literary' books and handing them out to willing readers.

Now, that has often been said before, but to prove that there are really some definite results to be accomplished, let us suggest a few of the questions that might profitably be considered.

First, municipal reference work—a high-sounding phrase that has usually frightened the librarian of small libraries into believing that that sort of work was only for libraries in large cities—or, worse yet, for special libraries even in the large cities. But really, is there any actual reason why the public library of a country town should not provide its town board and township advisory board and other local officers, with clippings and pamphlets and books that will make them more efficient public servants? And is it really any harder to secure the necessary material and to get it used in the town than it is in a city of a hundred thousand?

Another phase of the question may be designated 'The library and citizenship.' Let us consider what the libraries of Indiana can do to make for intelligent citizenship. Do we all buy as readily

and as intelligently as we should the books on public questions? Do we secure all the free pamphlets that are available? Then do we get them used? And if we are doing all these things, must we stop there? Isn't it possible that the library might offer a course of free lectures, and have some exhibits that would add to its influence for good—and that really wouldn't cost very much?

Other topics that have been suggested as subdivisions of the general subject—The socialization of the library—are:

- Books for working men
- How to get such books used
- Materials on social problems
- The use of the assembly and club rooms
- Exhibits in the library
- Helping along social movements
- Vocational guidance
- Industrial education
- and many others.

It is believed that earnest consideration and investigation along this line for one year, by all the districts, will be sure to result in considerable advancement all over the state—and that, at the end of 12 months, the people of Indiana will realize more fully than they now do that the public library is a real live social—as well as intellectual and educational—institution."

A Suggestion for A. L. A. Booklet

Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Your article, "What the A. L. A. can do?" was very interesting reading and reminds me that I have something to suggest for the A. L. A. The other day I came across the odd numbers of the fourth volume of *The Platonist*, and have been trying since to find out if these were the last numbers published. The Library of Congress has no card for such a magazine. Nor do I know of any book that will tell. Why would it not be a good thing for the A. L. A. to publish such a book, telling the number of volumes and when a magazine began and ended and have it cover all the magazines published in this country. It might take the magazines up to a certain time or period. It might be done on the coöperative plan.

WALTER C. GREEN,

Meadville (Pa.) theological seminary.

A Railroad Station Library

In answer to the question of Mr. Reid, in the May number of *PUBLIC LIBRARIES*, I would like to call attention to an account which I saw recently of such a collection of books as he spoke of, being placed in a railway station in England.

The Vicar of Midhurst, Rev. Tatchele, placed in the two railway stations of that town, two small bookcases, each containing about a dozen volumes. Above the case is a card bearing this inscription, "These books belong to the Vicar of Midhurst and are entrusted to the care of those who use them. Travelers are welcome to take a book with them upon their journey if they will return it upon their return or send it by post to the station master." There are no formalities about borrowing, no rules and no fee.

So far, the public has proved most appreciative and the books have plenty of use. So far, only one or two books have been missed.

The books are changed every three weeks.

The progressive clergyman carries out the same plan in his church with equal success.

CANADIAN LIBRARIAN.

Information Wanted

Editor *PUBLIC LIBRARIES*:

Some time ago, somewhere, I saw a list of books to be pasted in certain other books as leaders to better literature. These lists read something like this:

Have you read this book? Then probably you would like the following.

They also indicated in what book each list was pasted. It was a sort of graded literature proposition to lead to better reading.

Do you know who printed these? May I get samples? I hope a note in regard to it in *PUBLIC LIBRARIES* will lead to our getting the material we want, since I know it has been printed and I have had copies which are misplaced.

GRACE E. SWITZER,

Librarian.

Public library, Bellingham, Wash.

High Cost of Living in A. L. A.

It seems to me that the meetings of the A. L. A. are partaking of the nature of the high cost of living. At the present state of library salaries, it is almost out of the power of a large part of the membership to go to A. L. A. meetings. The entire cost is almost prohibitive, save for those whose expenses are paid by library boards.

The A. L. A. makes an appeal for an increased membership among library assistants, and it is largely the library assistant that makes the A. L. A. budget possible.

I have not been able to attend an A. L. A. meeting for three years. Last year I planned to go this year, but now I am faced with the question as to whether it is worth \$100 to me for one week. That is about what it would cost, exclusive of any preparation in the way of a wardrobe.

It seems to me the heads of departments in the large libraries are the people who make or mar the library, more even than the librarian, who can only plan and indicate a line of action.

The librarian has a salary of good size generally, and also has the bill of expense approved by the board.

The average salary of the head of a department is about \$1,500. They range, I think, from \$1200 to \$2000 a year. Subtract from that \$100, and it makes something of a hole. For that amount, one could take a pretty extensive library trip and see what the best libraries are really doing—not the ideals, but facts.

LIBRARY ASSISTANT.

Register for A. L. A.

The advance registration list for the Kaaterskill conference will be compiled from the room reservations filed with the manager of the Hotel Kaaterskill. Any person expecting to attend the conference who has not made room reservations as above, is requested to send his name and address to the Secretary of the American Library Association, 78 E. Washington street, Chicago.

Public Libraries

MONTHLY - EXCEPT AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

Library Bureau	- - - - -	Publishers
M. E. AHERN	- - - - -	Editor
Subscription	- - - - -	\$2 a year
Five copies to one library	- - - - -	\$8 a year
Single number	- - - - -	25 cents
Foreign subscriptions	- - - - -	\$2.25 a year

Entered as second-class matter May 17, 1896, at the Post office at Chicago, Ill., under act of March 3, 1897.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an Exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

Detrimental library legislation.—What would seem to be a most unfortunate amendment to the public library act of the province of Ontario, Canada, has recently been made and provides that the majority of appointees to library boards shall be teachers instead of prominent men from the different walks of life.

It is hard to understand the object of such an undesirable bit of legislation as this, and it cannot be otherwise than that the libraries will suffer from it if it is maintained. No one—not even the teachers themselves—would question the idea that business men of wide experience in the world of affairs would give much more efficient service as library trustees than the average professional man, and of all things to be avoided would be a majority of the latter in control of the business interests of any institution.

To reduce the pressure.—A plan that is tried successfully in many libraries

might be used in all with considerable diminution of pressure at a very busy point. A long time ago, when books in libraries were very much fewer than they are now, the rule was made that borrowers could keep the books they took for only two weeks, and if they needed them longer, it was necessary to have them renewed for another two weeks. Other privileges of borrowing have been added to this from time to time until the restrictions which a library imposes on its borrowers are easy, few and far between. But the time limit of two weeks with renewal still generally prevails. Why? Why not four weeks and no renewal?

It may be that the two weeks' limit acts somewhat as a stimulant to borrowers slow to return books, but with an adequate fine as a deterrent for such persons, the saving of work to the library staff by the month limit would be considerable and the result to the borrower much more satisfactory.

The Leipzig exhibit.—The information concerning the preparations for the International exhibition of book industries and graphic arts at Leipzig in 1914, indicates an occasion that is altogether worthy of the liveliest interest and heartiest coöperation on the part of everybody interested in books.

Suggestions for an International conference of libraries are being made by quite a number, and certainly a conference of "books-handlers" in an educational way, from various countries would be a most fitting attendant on such an exhibit.

The outline for the exhibit is worthy of the highest commendation. Seldom if ever, has any outline shown so thorough a preparation for and understanding of the occasion, as is shown in the scheme sent out by the committee. The

interest is growing and it is to be hoped, and even expected, that the book interests, both producers and distributors, and in this last are included the libraries, in the United States and Canada will take their place at the exhibition and coöperate as far as possible in making the occasion the success it so richly deserves.

The executive board of the American library association could well afford to commit the association to coöperation in the scheme and give whatever assistance it can in creating interest not only among libraries but among outside interests in its field of activity.

Public libraries and public schools.—There can be no question that the present condition of knowledge of the use of library tools on the part of a multitude of college students leaves much to be desired. It is questionable, however, if the statement of a recent writer, that "The majority of high school students will be handicapped through life in using the public library unless the high school teaches them how" is not putting too strongly the real condition of things.

The public library everywhere counts the young people, whether in their own particular quarters with their own special librarian or as regular users of the library, as the greater part of its constituents. There is growing all over the country an ever widening circle of school children who form the anchor of hope for the public library of the future, not only for the public library itself, but for the wider intelligence and greater comprehension of the affairs of life, among the people who constitute communities.

Unless the public library performs the work for which it is organized and supported, it has little excuse for being, and has no claim for continuation and extension on any community which does not

receive from it those things for which every public library is or should be organized, namely, "a source of education, inspiration and recreation" for those in whose midst it is placed.

Both the cultural and vocational value of books need to be emphasized in high school work, and the closest relation between public schools and public libraries is necessary for the fulfillment of the dual duty which is theirs.

The report of the Committee of the New England college librarians (see p. 251) gives room for serious reflection when it states that 23 New England colleges out of 27 report their freshmen students do not know how to use library tools. It seems a large percent but its real value to librarians rests on how far the public libraries in the sections represented have given attention to children's needs in their work.

Whose fault?—A local newspaper in a community which has a library building as the result of something like \$100,000 from Andrew Carnegie, says of the grounds surrounding it:

The barren and weed-grown condition of the library lot is occasioning not a little protest from citizens in that section of the city. The present condition of the lot is a disgrace to the city. It is barren, weed-grown and discrediting to the community.

One might venture to say that the work of the public library itself in that city has failed immeasurably of its purpose and duty, if sufficient occasion is given for a comment of that kind in the city newspapers. The reading of books at public expense is of little purpose if the civic spirit of the users of the library is at such a low ebb that the surroundings of the distributing center of literature is allowed to have even a semblance of the description above narrated.

Cleanliness may be second to godli-

ness, but it certainly takes precedence over the other human attributes, and for a library, of all places, to be set in such surroundings is most deplorable.

The founders of the library school.—It is learned from the secretary of the American library association that the pamphlets which have been issued under the title of "Preprints of the Manual of library economy," will be subjected to revision and any change that examination and consideration of the Preprints would seem to make necessary, can be made later.

In this connection, it would certainly seem both right and fitting that the omission of Dr Dewey's name in the pamphlet dealing with the foundation, organization and promulgation of library school work be rectified and his contributions to its development be given more consideration than was accorded in the Preprint which was noticed in PUBLIC LIBRARIES last month (See PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 18:210). The members of the committee having the preparation of the Manual in charge, Mr Wyer of the New York state library school, Mr Windsor of the Illinois state library school and Miss Plummer, the author of the pamphlet, will certainly see the justice of setting right this matter, which doubtless was issued in the form it was, through an oversight.

Nothing could be more absurd than to have a chapter on American library schools in a Manual of library economy, issued under the direction of the American library association, make no mention of Dr Dewey's foundation of the work and his subsequent development of the same.

Miss Bascom change of position.—Elva L. Bascom, editor of the *A. L. A. Booklist* since 1908, has handed her resignation to the Publishing Board, to take effect, July 1.

Miss Bascom has given unremitting care and faithful effort in the preparation of her work and is deserving of the thanks not only of the A. L. A., but also of a multitude of minor libraries which have profited by her work.

It is with regret that one sees Miss Bascom sever her connection with the work, but its requirements have been so exacting that she feels a longer continuance of the labor would be detrimental in her present state of health.

Miss Bascom has joined the staff of the Wisconsin library commission and will divide her time between the library school and the field work.

Honor Where Honor Is Due

In a recent number of the *News* of Savannah, Ga., there was given the story of "The mother of Brooks county library," Mrs A. J. Rountree, aged 83 years.

Mrs Rountree has been president of the Library association of Quitman, Ga., continuously for 33 years, as the Brooks county library association was organized at her home, January 31, 1880. She is the only one of the officers elected at that first meeting who still survives. The first board of directors were prominent men, known throughout Georgia, but only three survive.

Quitman was the first Georgia town outside of the large cities to have a library, and for 33 years the library has never failed to be open, has never been in debt and has been the center of culture for the town and community. This record of usefulness is due largely to the devoted services of Mrs Rountree, whose loyalty to the library has never failed.

The portrait of Mrs Rountree which illustrates the article from which these items are taken, shows her to have a look of vigor and youth which belies the record of years, and one can well believe the statement that the big colonial house where Mrs Rountree has lived for over 40 years, is still the center of large and varied interests touching the town's affairs.

Mrs Rountree is very anxious to see a cherished plan carried out, of converting the work of the Library association of Quitman into a public library in a new building with increased facilities. The quaint old red brick library building contains over 2,000 v., that crowd the por-

traits and relics which have accumulated there in the past generation.

The article referred to in the *News* reads like a romance, the only discordant note being the idea of having the proposed new library named for Mr Carnegie instead of allowing it to bear the well deserved name of the "mother of Brooks county library," if any special name is to be given to the institution. Thirty-three years of service of such a character as would be necessary under the circumstances outlined, means much more and is much more deserving of honor than the same number of thousands of dollars given for a building. The library is already there. The spirit of books, thanks to this eminent woman, is certainly present, and if by any chance, the Carnegie Foundation should see fit to grant the request for sufficient means to erect a suitable Rountree memorial building for Quitman, the Carnegie Foundation would be honored in so giving, rather than the town of Quitman in receiving.

The Chicago *Record-Herald* has a semi-facetious editorial in a recent issue, relating to an effort made by that office to dispose of an accumulation of public documents, particularly 20 huge volumes which contained the census reports of 1890 and 1900. After dealing with the efforts made to get rid of 12 sacks of material, the article closes pointedly, as follows:

There is a steady stream of such compilations in quantity inconceivable that is pouring forth day after day from the government presses. Even the critical investigations that have been made give no adequate idea of the tremendous mass that goes into waste baskets as soon as it comes out of the mails. There are issues without number generously distributed everywhere and among people who have no use for them whatever. Never was there a sounder reason for limited editions. They might not contribute much to the aristocracy of literature, but they would effect a saving that even a rich and prodigal government could not despise.

A Year's Work in New York

An official summary of the work of the New York state library for the year ending September 30, 1912, is at hand.

State library. The year was one of reorganization and of large book buying, in temporary quarters scattered all over the city of Albany. No reading rooms were open to the public and but little reference service of any sort was possible. Since the fire the State has appropriated \$619,000 for the purchase of books, periodicals and manuscripts. Of this sum \$215,086.12 were spent during the year under notice. Before any considerable book buying was done the subjects to be incorporated in the new State library were definitely determined, and this scope has been rigidly observed, even to the point of rejecting books offered to the library as gifts, refusing to consider books and subjects not within its field, even when offered at very low prices, and in some cases even throwing out of the library books which were saved from the fire but which no longer claim a place in its collections.

The gifts for 18 months following the fire were as follows:

Bound volumes	61,794
Pamphlets	113,811
Maps, charts, photographs, etc.....	1,349
Miscellaneous items, manuscripts, blanks, forms, notes, samples, etc.	34,496

No figures are available as to the number of books now in the library as the staff has been too busy buying books and preparing them for use to even count them, and there are on hand over 300 cases of books which have not yet been opened.

During September, 1912, all divisions of the library occupied their new quarters in the State Education building where all lines of work with the public will shortly be resumed. The report gives an interesting description of the restoration of manuscripts, treats of the distribution of New York State documents and touches upon several other topics of more local interest.

Library school. The work of the Library school was carried on during the

year in temporary quarters with 43 students enrolled, 11 seniors and 32 juniors. The only change in faculty was the withdrawal of Miss A. A. Jones from the work of instruction and the election of Miss Jennie D. Fellows as instructor in cataloging, accession and shelf work.

For the first time the plan was tried of discontinuing school exercises for the month of March and sending the students to libraries outside of Albany for a month's practice work. The cordial interest of many of the best libraries of the country made it possible to provide a variety of practice suited to the needs and desires of all the students. The success of the experiment surpassed expectation. The students were unanimous in their expression of the benefit derived, while more than the anticipated number of libraries reported that the students had been a real help in the work of the library. Fourteen public libraries and six college libraries in six states co-operated in this work. During the year 100 positions filled by former students have come to the attention of the school.

Educational extension. Despite the fact that the work of library extension was seriously crippled by the entire loss of records and past correspondence as well as by the destruction of about 60,000 books in the fire, the work has gone on with surprising smoothness and efficiency. Forty thousand traveling library books in all parts of the state at the time of the fire, were returned and provided a valuable nucleus for present and future service. During the year 538 libraries reported to this division, with 8,747,928 volumes, and a total circulation of 21,417,143. Of this circulation over 20,000,000 was achieved by the 462 free public libraries which contain 4,421,901 volumes.

Thirty-seven new libraries were chartered during the year and 13 were registered as maintaining a proper standard. \$33,025.85 were allotted to 370 free libraries which had raised an equal amount locally for the purchase of books. The total amount raised for library support by taxation within the

state increased during the year \$31,314.49.

Eleven new library buildings in New York state were completed or newly fitted out and occupied within the year.

Traveling libraries. 757 traveling libraries containing 31,183 volumes were sent out. 35 new study clubs were registered, bringing the total of those reporting approved courses to 353.

The Librarian

From early morn 'til dewy eve,
Her sole desire's but to relieve
The anxious ones who come and go
Incessantly, and want to know
"What is meant by 'Pig'n Whistle'?"
"Is there an 'Order of the Thistle'?"
"Did George Eliot lose his sight?"
"I want to get 'Sheep that pasture at night'."
"When does the Civic Center meet?"
"Does Mrs. Green live on this street?"
"How do you make soft ginger-bread?"
"There's nothing here but what I've read."
"Please may I have a catalog?"
"Do you pronounce it dawg or dog?"
"Who wrote 'The pine-tree's lonesome tale'?"
"Do you know who has hens for sale?"
"You said 'Karenina' last night,
My sister says that is not right."
"When will that garden book be in?"
"I wish you'd get 'A hidden sin'."
"They say the measles is in town,
I'm scart that Jimmy's comin' down,
And Johnnie's got the yellow janders."
"Who was it wrote 'The cat of Flanders'?"
"How would you make an old-rose crepe,
"With a two-piece skirt and a half-length
drape?"
"I want to dye my faded switch."
"What will cure Manila itch?"
"Who was it sat and smiled at grief?"
"Do you pronounce it def or deef?"
"I want Devine's Illustrious men,
"Will you save it for me when it comes in?"
"You must make lots of fancy things."
"Did Milton say that thoughts have wings?"
"Where can I find Dante's Infernal?"
"I want to get Caine's City eternal."
"My mother wants a good love story."
"Who was it named the flag 'Old Glory'?"
"I want that book that Jack brought back."
"Is 'Helen's kids' kept in this stack?"
"Who was it swam the Hellespont?"
"Ma sends you these books that we don't
want."
"Will you hold baby for a minute?"
"This book's no good, there's nothing in it."
"My dog just *will* come in with me,
I raised him from a pup you see."
"I'll take sister out, she's going to cry."
All right, little girl, here's your book, good-by.

MARY BROWN, Librarian.

Bird House Contest

In order to interest the boys in bird books and at the same time to enlist them in a movement to aid and protect birds, I succeeded in getting a philanthropic lady of Marshfield, Wis., to offer prizes for bird houses. The conditions were as follows:

Best wren house \$1.50

Second best wren house \$1.00

Best martin house \$1.50

Second best martin house \$1.00

All boys under 16 were invited to enter the contest.

As soon as the houses were completed they were brought to the Marshfield free library, and on April 27, the prizes were awarded by the members of the library board.

Before the contest was opened I visited all the schools, and gave talks on birds, mentioning our collection of mounted pictures of birds, and also our bird books. I explained fully how to make a simple wren house of about a foot long, or nearly so, pointed roof to shed water, and a removable back or roof with screws, with the hole for entrance, which should only be one inch in diameter, so the English sparrow could not get in, remembering not to have a platform in front of it. A removable roof being required, so the house could be cleansed each spring, as wrens never re-build in an uncleansed box. They will raise two broods every year if they have clean houses.

Martin houses should be put up ready for use during the last week of March if in a new locality, but in communities where the birds are already established a month later will do. A martin house may have as many apartments as desired, but the opening must be two and one-half inches. The height should be about 16 feet above the ground, the position free from tree branches and at least a few yards from buildings.

On the morning of the contest, 41 boys had entered the contest. Two hours was spent in awarding the prizes, as a great many points were considered, as the correct openings, style of house, handicraft, age, workmanship, etc.

The library was crowded with visitors for several days, inspecting the houses; the men taking an unusual interest in the houses. About 18 houses were sold after the contest.

During the contest I did not begin to have enough books on birds for circulation, and know I could have used twice as many colored bird pictures.

I succeeded in getting the teachers to bring the children to the library to see the collection of mounted birds I had borrowed. Hardly a day passes, that a child does not come in the library to find out a name of a bird he has just seen. Instead of immediately telling the child, I assist him in using Chapman's Bird life.

BLANCH L. UNTERKIRCHER,
Librarian.

For Free Distribution

The United States bureau of mines has some of its publications for free distribution, but cannot give more than one copy of the same bulletin to the same person. Requests for all the papers cannot be granted without a satisfactory reason. In asking for the publications, please order them by number and title. Address applications to the Director of the Bureau of Mines, Washington, D. C.

Bulletins

Bulletin 48, Selections of explosives used in engineering and mining operations. 50 pp., 1913.

Bulletin 55, The commercial trend of the gas producer of the U. S., R. H. Fernald. 92 pp., 1913.

Bulletin 62, National mine rescue, First aid conference, Pittsburgh, September, 1912, H. M. Wilson. 74 pp., 1913.

Technical papers

Technical paper No. 38, Wastes in the production and utilization of natural gas and means for their prevention, Ralph Arnold and F. G. Clapp. 29 pp., 1913.

Technical paper No. 48, Coal mine accidents of the U. S., 1896-1912, with monthly statistics for 1912. F. W. Horton. 72 pp., 1913.

American Library Association
Program of general sessions at Kaaterskill
conference

General theme for the conference
 Specialization in library work.

First session

Monday, June 23, 8:15 p. m.

President's address—The world of print and the world's work.

"As others see us"—Brief comments and expressions on library work from men and women of affairs in this country and in Great Britain.

Second session

Tuesday, June 24, 9:30 a. m.

General theme: Work with foreigners, colored races, defectives and dependents.

Address—Our fellow citizens of foreign birth—Hon. William Sulzer, governor of New York.

Work with foreigners—Mrs Adelaide B. Maltby.

The men in the yards—Charles E. Rush.

Defectives and dependents: Helping those who cannot help themselves—Julia A. Robinson.

What of the colored races?—William F. Yust.

Reports of officers and committees:

Secretary
 Treasurer
 Finance committee
 Trustees of endowment fund
 Publishing board.

Third session

Wednesday, June 25, 9:30 a. m.

General theme: Library influences in the home, in the shop and on the farm.

Address—Special reference collections for housekeepers—Sarah Louise Arnold.

A working library for the artisan and the craftsman—Edward F. Stevens.

The woman on the farm—Lutie E. Stearns.

The library situation as it touches the rural field—Prof Liberty H. Bailey.

Report of committees:

Bookbinding
 Bookbuying
 Catalog rules for small libraries
 Cooperation with the N. E. A.
 Coordination
 Federal and state relations
 International relations

Fourth session

Thursday, June 26, 9:30 a. m.

General theme: Children and young people; their conditions at home, in the school and in the library.

Address—The education of children and

the conservation of their interests—Mrs Frances Squire Potter.

Changing conditions of child life—Faith E. Smith.

How the library is meeting these conditions—Gertrude E. Andrus.

Normal schools and their relation to librarianship—Willis H. Kerr.

The enlarging scope of library work in high schools—Mary E. Hall.

Committee reports:

Library administration
 Library training
 Library work with the blind
 Public documents

Fifth session

Friday, June 27, 9:30 a. m.

General theme: The library's service to business and legislation.

Address—(Subject to be supplied)—George McAneny, Borough-president of The Bronx.

The law that stands the test—M. S. Dudgeon.

State wide forces in the state library—D. C. Brown.

Present status of the legislative reference movement—C. B. Lester.

Making a library useful to business men—S. H. Ranck.

Libraries in business organizations: their expanding function—Louise B. Krause.

Business.

Sixth session

Saturday, June 28, 9:30 a. m.

General theme: The world of books.

The friendly book—Genevieve M. Walton.

How to discourage reading—Edmund L. Pearson.

Book symposium.

Unfinished business.

Reports:

Executive board
 Council
 Resolutions committee
 Tellers of election

Travel notices for Kaaterskill conference

The only special rate granted this year for the A. L. A. conference is that of one and three-fifths fare on the certificate plan. The certificate plan restricts the return journey to within one week of adjournment and does not allow stopovers. The Committee does not recommend the use of this, but instead advises where possible, to buy summer round-trip excursion tickets, which are good for one month or longer by arrangement. Where the summer excursion rate is not available, regular fare must be paid.

The summer rate is made from all points to New York City or to Boston, but will require a trip to Boston or New York to validate the ticket for return. In addition local fare will have to be paid from Kingston to the meeting place and from the meeting place to New York City. The summer tickets reading via Utica or via Albany are good for 10 days stopover at either or both of each cities, both going and return. This will be a help to those expecting to take the post-conference trip, provided they do not propose to spend more than 10 days in the Adirondacks. The usual personally conducted parties will travel from Boston, New York and Chicago.

The Boston party will be in charge of F. W. Faxon, to whom Pullman fare should be sent before June 15. On starting, buy summer excursion round-trip ticket and check baggage to Otis Summit.

The New York, Philadelphia and Washington party will be in charge of C. H. Brown of the Brooklyn public library, to whom application should be made for any definite information. It is possible to reach Hotel Kaaterskill by day boat to Kingston and then connecting with the train to the hotel, or by day boat or night boat to Catskill, connecting with Otis Elevating Ry. to the hotel. The West Shore R. R. will run through coaches and parlor car direct from New York to the hotel.

The Western party will be in charge of John F. Phelan, of the Public library of Chicago, Ill., who will supply any information desired in regard to the trip.

Chicago party (including Middle West)

Send deposit for Pullman reservation to John F. Phelan, Chicago public library, before June 10.

A special de luxe, electric lighted train, will leave Chicago via the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway (La Salle Street Station, LaSalle and Van Buren Streets), on Sunday morning June 22 at 10:30, arrive at Cleveland 7:30 p. m., Buffalo at 11:59 p. m., and Albany, Monday morning June 23, at 8:45 a. m.

In order to allow delegates from the

west a glimpse of the new State library and the new quarters of the Library school, a stopover for three hours has been arranged at Albany. Special train will resume journey at 11:30 a. m. sharp, and arrive at Kaaterskill, 3:30 p. m.

Railroad rates

No special rates will be granted by the railroads from Chicago and the west to the Kaaterskill conference, but the regular 30 day round trip summer excursion tickets to New York, costing \$30, or Saratoga Springs tickets, costing \$24.10, are recommended. These tickets will have to be validated at destination points, New York City, or Saratoga Springs, before returning home.

On New York City tickets, no stopover will be allowed, between Albany and New York City, making it necessary to purchase local ticket from Kingston to Kaaterskill, \$.90 party rate, at Kingston, and local ticket from Kaaterskill to New York City, \$.328, at Kaaterskill, when returning.

Those who do not wish to go to New York City, but desire a more direct and convenient way of returning home, are advised to purchase the round trip excursion ticket to Saratoga Springs, costing \$24.10. Such tickets must be deposited at Albany for stopover on the going journey, and local tickets purchased, Albany to Kaaterskill and return, \$4.59. Upon arriving at Albany on return journey, tickets may be claimed, thence to Saratoga Springs to have tickets validated.

The Saratoga Springs ticket is recommended for those who purpose joining the post-conference party. Members planning to accompany the Lake Placid section, will have to journey to Saratoga Springs from Albany, to have their tickets validated, before starting on the trip which enters the Adirondacks via Utica. The Lake Placid party, upon arrival at Utica going, must deposit tickets there for stopover, and take them up on returning from the mountains. Those traveling north with the other section around the mountains to Hotel Champlain, thence to Au Sable Chasm.

returning to Albany, may have tickets validated at Saratoga Springs when passing through.

The regular one way rate, Chicago to Kingston is \$19.32 and proportional rates, based upon the above, will prevail from points outside of Chicago.

Delegates who buy New York City tickets, have the option of returning all rail back to Chicago, or Hudson River steamers to Albany, and steamer, Buffalo to Cleveland.

Attractive circle tours, with a 60 day limit are offered, at slight additional cost from New York City. Information concerning these tours will be furnished by local railroad office.

Pullman rates

Application for Pullman reservations must be accompanied by deposit, covering the kind of accommodations desired, not later than June 10.

Lower berth, \$4.75; upper berth, \$3.80; section, \$8.55; compartment (two persons), \$13.50; drawing room (three persons), \$17. Meals will be served in the dining car *a la carte*.

Post-conference trip

Reservations for the post-conference trip should be made to F. W. Faxon before June 15, money to be paid before June 26. An eight-day trip has been arranged covering a day at Albany and a week in the Adirondacks region. The details of this trip were given in PUBLIC LIBRARIES for April. (See p. 157.) The cost—Albany to Lake Placid (including return railway ticket to Albany) meals, transportation, transfers, meals to afternoon of Sunday, July 6 (except four meals in Albany)—\$40.00. This is for each person, provided two room together, without bath. Extras such as a room alone, baths, and so on, may bring the cost up to about \$50.

Program

The program for the Kaaterskill meeting shows a wide survey of the field of library work, and includes some of the strong workers in the presentation of topics.

In the College and reference section,

presided over by Andrew Keogh of Yale, is found Bibliographic instruction by Lucy Salmon of Vassar; Classification by H. E. Bliss, New York college; The research demand by Robert S. Fletcher, Amherst; Art influences in the college library, Frank Weitenkampf, New York public library.

There will be a round-table for reference workers held by Sarah B. Askew, New Jersey public library commission, in which various interesting topics will be presented. Cataloging from different points will be presented by F. F. Hopper, Laura Smith, Beatrice Winsor, Arthur E. Bostwick.

The section on Work with children will contain contributions from Clara W. Hunt, Caroline Burnite, Martha Wilson, Mary E. Hall, Maude McClellan, and others.

Agricultural librarians will hold a round-table. There will be a round-table also on public documents.

The American Library Institute will hold its annual meeting at the Kaaterskill hotel. Addresses will be presented by Dr Frank P. Hill, Dr Arthur E. Bostwick, W. D. Johnston, and John Thompson, of Philadelphia.

The Trustees' section, Professional training, the League of library commissions, National association of State librarians, Association of Law librarians, and the Special librarians' associations will all hold meetings.

Other interests will have opportunity for conferences also.

A distinguished visitor

The Library association of the United Kingdom, (British) has accepted the invitation of the A. L. A. to send an accredited delegate to the meeting of 1913, and appointed Mr L. Stanley Jast, Hon. Sec., who will be present at Kaaterskill.

Conference of school librarians

Saturday, June 28, 1913, 2 p. m.

Program for conference of school librarians to be held under the auspices of the American library association and the Library department of the National education association.

High school session

Conducted by Anna Hadley, librarian, The Gilbert school, Winsted, Conn.

Planning and equipping a high school library..... Sarah B. Annett, librarian, Washington Irving high-school, New York City.

How can we encourage the best use of the library by the different departments?.... Elizabeth B. McKnight, librarian, The Barringer high-school, Newark, N. J.

Training high school students in the use of books (Brief reports and discussion).... Fanny D. Ball, Central high-school, Grand Rapids, Mich.

Helen Hill, William Penn high-school, Philadelphia, Pa.

Laura M. Mann, Central high-school, Washington, D. C.

Janet Nunn, Lewis and Clark high-school, Spokane, Wash.

Gilbert O. Ward, supervisor of high-school libraries, Cleveland, Ohio.

Ways of interesting high-school pupils in good reading.....

Boys—Marie Fox Wait, Peddie institute, Hightstown, N. J.

Mary Spangler, high-school, Hartford, Conn.

Girls—Katherine Grasty, Eastern high-school, Baltimore, Md.

Celia M. Houghton, high-school, Albany, N. Y.

Normal school session

Conducted by Willis M. Kerr, State normal school, Emporia, Kansas.

Library lessons in the grades.

Length and number of lessons

Subjects taught in the different grades

Practice lessons given by students

Courses in children's literature given by normal school students

Number of lessons. Best helps. Results.

State law requiring such lessons.

Note: There will be an exhibit of school library helps, lists, forms, etc.

American Library Institute.

The American library institute will hold a meeting at the time of the A. L. A. conference. The following topics will be discussed:

1. Cost of library administration.

John Thomson, Philadelphia. Report of Committee.

2. Physical efficiency. Frank P. Hill, Brooklyn, N. Y.

3. The need of specialization in library service. W. D. Johnston, New York City.

FRANK P. HILL,
Pres.

What the A. L. A. Might Take Up

Before the Association can hope to take an aggressive confident attitude in making its forces felt outside of its own membership, it must have behind it the momentum which must come from numbers as well as the enthusiasm of the few; it must as well, have full knowledge of its own resources and capabilities before it can be enduringly established and it must have a knowledge as well of the vital forces behind the movement elsewhere. For this reason I believe that the most effective work which the Association can do at this time preliminary to planning on broad lines, is in focusing its strength through committees on a survey of the character above indicated rather than to spread its work and its means thin through a large number of committees dealing at long range with a myriad of minor matters as at the present time. It would be well, it seems to me for the next two or three years to consolidate all available funds now distributed in small units via committee expenditures, and to appoint a strong committee of small membership to undertake a thorough investigation of the library situation with authority and means to extend such investigation to England and perhaps Germany, France and the Scandinavian countries for the purpose of reaching certain conclusions which by reason of the authority behind them would serve as a steady guide to library boards and librarians in properly formulating library policies.

There has been such tremendous growth in library endeavor during the past two decades that necessarily many lines of activity have been undertaken without due regard to their relative importance, attractive though many of them may have seemed and fruitful as some of them may have become. We have now reached a stage, however, when experimental attempts should be localized rather than generally undertaken. The work of a committee, such as above suggested, would give the necessary basis for future work.

Along approved lines the numerous

committees of the A. L. A. have worked with enthusiasm, but under conditions that would not permit of great thoroughness. The members of the individual committees have been scattered over the country without possibility of communication except through correspondence and necessarily the committee work has been left to a rapid and frequently unthorough gathering-in of data just prior to the annual conferences. A strong well-seasoned report from a committee of recognized authority, dealing with the essentials of librarianship and the possibilities of work with the public, would command attention, and would give to the institutions performing this service with the public a standing that would ultimately mean their larger appreciation and their more consistent support.

HENRY E. LEGLER.

A second reading of Dr Boswick's paper entitled "Cost of administration," printed in the December PUBLIC LIBRARIES, leads me to feel that work still remains for the A. L. A. in the preparation and publication of definite and authoritative statistics with reference to the practical side of library science. In our proceedings and journals we have a wealth of stimulating discussion, of varying opinions and, occasionally, a consensus of judgment. Our practice and procedure have been crystalized in admirable treatises and manuals. Yet does not the novice still fail to find in simple, concrete form certain needful facts, not opinions or estimates, facts that are based upon the experience of well-conducted libraries and supported by the *imprimatur* of the association? True progress is dependent upon past experience. A new problem can be solved quickly and correctly only by the use of definite data. Are we librarians leaving for our successors anything comparable to the "Tables of constants and numerical data" which scientists unite in placing on record? Our problems are far different from those of the chemist or physicist, yet as long as human nature changes so slowly, if at all, surely we can establish

in great detail and with almost mathematical exactness certain facts relating to the cost, the material and the methods of our work.

The field for such statistics is a wide one. For illustration I mention only one of the simplest and that in library construction. How many books will a hundred linear feet of shelving accommodate? Our latest and best book on library architecture gives an answer wiser than was available 30 years ago, but not one whit more detailed or more definite. The author evidently felt the lack of those actual painstaking measurements which only time, coöperation and determined effort can reduce to the domain of actual fact. How illuminative would his page have become had he been able to cite carefully prepared tables showing the number of feet required, respectively, for 1,000 volumes of the Congressional series of U. S. Documents arranged by serial number; 1,000 volumes of current fiction arranged by authors and with provision for the insertion of 100 volumes each year; for all the periodicals indexed in the second volume of the *Reader's Guide*; for 200 common books of reference such as one finds everywhere on the open shelves of the public library in the average town or small city!

GEORGE T. LITTLE.

Bowdoin college, Maine.

The A. L. A. has measureably succeeded in inspiring in its members a sense of the responsibility and dignity of their chosen calling. Might it not also properly undertake a campaign of education of the public along these lines? Sporadic general and several systematic local efforts to bring the library to the attention of the public have been very successful but there is need of more general enlightenment on the subject through a campaign inaugurated by a national association free from the suspicion of any personal axes to grind. Attractive literature written from the popular not the professional viewpoint and more scholarly articles aimed at scholars and printed in *their*, not *our* professional publications are both needed. The publicity

campaigns of the Y. M. C. A. and of several railroad and telephone systems are recent examples of dignified but effective attempts to overcome popular ignorance and prejudice.

We take our place in the body politic as granted but the public does not do so, and only the slightest political or social disturbance is necessary to show how readily the public or even the university library is tossed into any vacant place in the general social system or made the victim of the economist for revenue only. Voters of all classes pretty generally resent any attack on education. When they really understand that the library is educational, and then only, is the attainment of the library's possibilities permanently assured.

FRANK K. WALTER.

New York state library.

What the A. L. A. might take up under present circumstances is one question, and what it might take up if it had the means is quite another. If the answer to the question which has been put by the editor were quite untrammelled by the question of finance, it would open unlimited fields; a library school which should be a true university of the book sciences; the making accessible of the great manuscripts of Europe to all Americans by means of the new cheap photographic devices; a universal joint list of uncommon books in American libraries and so on—but alack! the A. L. A. is not free from financial limitations.

Under present circumstances, where extension must be inexpensive, some present expense dropped or more endowment secured, this answer to the editor's question will be limited to two concrete matters, one very simple, inexpensive, practical and vital; the other more indirect, scholastic, and expensive but also far-reaching for the progress of science, and, therefore, in the end vital for individual and social welfare.

The New York Times on the date of this writing has some pointed observations on the use of the schoolhouse as social center and this question of the publicly owned and administered social

center is one of the liveliest among present betterment questions. Now, of course, no use of the surplus time of a schoolhouse can take the place of a people's club house especially fitted for its ends and accessible all day, but it has been well shown that, failing such suitable club buildings, the public school buildings may be used to advantage for some of the purposes of a social center, and it has been farther shown that a suitable library may be a valuable feature of such use. Again it is well known that public social centers with their own buildings, like those of the Chicago park system, have been developed in many cities, and it has been farther shown that without a library these lack the very soul of the matter.

On the other hand, when one stops to think of it, the library itself is in fact a public social center within the strict meaning of the practical end, sought by the social center idea. When they have the means for lecture rooms, play rooms, theater and the like, they are better social centers than when they do not, but under the worst building condition the live library is the one central specific public agency for the intellectual recreation and free self-development of the citizen—accessible to all and used by every class without distinction. As things are now, we have two distinct kinds of social centers, the one a building for athletics, music, dancing, social functions of all sorts and free lecture facilities with insignificant or no library features, and on the other great libraries with few recreational features except the reading rooms. There is on the one hand, however, a good deal of tendency to enlarge the library facilities of the so-called social centers and on the other to add to library buildings at least facilities for related activities.

One of the really great questions of the present time is therefore as to whether the social center shall be made typically and predominatingly spiritual through union with library and museum or predominatingly physical and merely diversional. Connected with this great question are many subordinate questions.

These include the nature of the service of the library as exclusive social center in small communities, the supplying of traveling libraries to schoolhouses and granges, the central administration by central library, of schoolhouse libraries, when schools are used as social centers, the maintaining of branches of the public library in technical social centers in the cities, the converting of library branches into social centers, and many other such questions large and small. All these matters are up for live discussion much of the time, and there is a great field for wise planning and wise agitation as to one or another of the features.

On looking over the activities of the association as they are represented by the list of its committees, and in view of this situation, there does not seem to be any very definite recognition of the fact that the library is thus at the very heart of one of the liveliest group of questions in the whole teeming field of social betterment, and is, in fact, in most communities, the only public social center, and, therefore, the most hopeful starting point for meeting one of the most profound and insistent demands of modern society for the common meeting ground for its free intellectual and recreational activities. The A. L. A. might therefore, make a social welfare committee or committee with some other name expressing in still more definite and pointed manner the intimate concern of libraries with the whole question of social betterment by the public and for the public, as distinguished from the private activities of the various settlements, Christian associations and the like.

The second suggestion is one which calls for more endowment before very much can be done. It involves paralleling the work of the Carnegie endowment for the use of popular libraries with a larger endowment for similar index work for scholarship purposes. It, of course, is not to be forgotten that the A. L. A. budget calls for \$1,800 for the editing and the printing of periodical cards, but much more could be done to advantage. With the enormous increase in the output of books and with the still more dis-

proportionate output of periodical literature, series, etc., the need for index aids, prepared under intelligent and skilled bibliographical direction, is increasing fast. This indexing can be done, and is being done in part, for popular periodicals, commercially, but as soon as a rather narrow line of periodicals is passed, the expense becomes very great, as American librarians have recently had occasion to know through commercial proposals for extension of the present index, and some solution under well endowed direction of the library association is to be desired. For natural science and medicine rather good and very extensive provision has been made, while technology and some other lines have part solutions, but many fields wholly lack adequate index apparatus.

Another aspect of the same matter is the proposal for a general joint list of periodicals taken by American libraries which is now before the association, and the long pending proposal to publish a joint list of incunabula. A joint list of all books published before the year 1800 would be most desirable and ought not to be impracticable, but, without being too ambitious, a joint list of periodicals and one of incunabula, and say another of manuscript codices, ought certainly not to be beyond the attainment of the American library association, and such enterprises ought to be able to win for themselves a sufficient endowment. As such matters are of maximum value only when continued and kept up perpetually, the association ought, if it undertakes them, to attempt the raising of additional endowment for this class of work and not merely to provide means for first editing and publication.

E. C. RICHARDSON.

Princeton university.

As the library and the librarian are in a broad sense part of the educational force of the community, why should the A. L. A. not devote some of its time to the discussion of the ways and means of instructing the public in good literature, and inducing the people to love and read great books?

Putting it in another way, shall the library buy what the mass of the people think they want, or shall it be a discriminating teacher? If these points have been discussed over and over (I have never heard them) the answer is, so have methods of governing the library, catalog systems, etc., etc. There is always a new point of view. I find very few people, even among readers, interested or well informed on the great books in music, art, political science, poetry and drama. The schools do not inspire the love of reading. Shall the library and the librarian not be inspirers as well as catalogers? And how? Would this, then, be a fit topic in answer to "What shall the A. L. A. do?"

DEMARCHUS BROWN,
Indiana state library.

1. Let the Executive committee get copies of all papers to be presented at a conference, including official reports, print them and distribute them to members and to newspapers and journals at least three weeks before the meeting. Some may be marked when sent as released on the day on which they are to be read.

This will do at least four things:

a. It will give those who prepare the papers an opportunity to see themselves in cold type, a very chastening matter to most of us.

b. It will enable the executive committee to adapt programs to the time available by reducing dullness and unimportance to the minimum, and giving ample time for contributions to our small store of wisdom and humor.

c. It will give all conferees subjects for talk at the conference and will remove the last excuse for ineptitude and other accompaniments of unpreparedness in discussions, if any such are permitted.

d. It will help give the conference a little proper publicity in place of its habitual air of seclusion.

2. The Executive committee should appoint a press agent with a proper appropriation who takes care that the doings of our organization, composed of

persons employed by the public, are made accessible to that public's eyes and ears,—the newspapers.

3. The Executive committee should publish the association's proceedings, not in one fat and forbidding volume on pulpy paper, all of seeming and forbidding dryness; but in at least four, and better in six or ten parts, on thin book paper, sewed and not stabbed, each with an appropriate cover.

These several parts should be made up as the material at hand suggests. For example:

a) The reports of officials, and other documents of interest only to members.

b) Important papers, if any, being those notable as veritable contributions to library science in general or as distinctly literary and attractive in style. None should be included because of the author's name. In this and in other volumes could be included discussions if any were offered other than spontaneous and undigested prattle.

c) Papers of the general character of those in 2, but dealing quite distinctly with matters so technical as to make them of interest and value almost solely to librarians.

d to f or j) Papers, with proper discussions, having to do with special aspects of library work, such as college and university libraries, state libraries, library commissions, and work with schools.

It would cost but little more to issue the proceedings thus than in the usual mountainous style. The secretary would have for distribution six or more times the number of articles he now has. The cost of mailing each would be less. The library reader would find his way to the needles and diamonds more readily, and the non-library people, editors and such, to each of whom would be sent the volume most likely to interest him, would look on its outside with favor and perhaps glance within.

To most of the volumes in the series should be added a prefatory note of explanation.

4. The Executive committee and the Publishing Board should change the name and form of the *Book List*, and advertise it.

They should change the name because very few outside the library field know what A. L. A. stands for. The name thus tends to conceal from most the existence of a very useful thing. Some say that the *Book List* is a trade publication and should not have a wide circulation. But when George Iles at Lake-wood, in 1898 suggested the evaluation of books by librarians, he did not intend the evaluation to be made useful to librarians only, but to the public at large. Also, when an A. L. A. journal including book valuations, was suggested by Mr W. I. Fletcher at Atlantic City, in 1904, no one thought of restricting the use of it to librarians. Indeed, the uppermost thought in the minds of those who advocated the publication of a book review and literary journal by the A. L. A. was that such a journal would help us to carry out the purpose for which American communities support public libraries, that is the promotion of knowledge of books and of the habit of buying them. By a strange perversion of ideas, due partly to the fact that the enterprise was first floated largely through the aid of library commissions, the authorities of the A. L. A. have lost sight of what should be the main purpose of the *Book List*. It should be directed largely to the general reader and the student, and should have a name which would help to draw attention to its purpose and its contents.

The form should be changed because it is now too small for easy reference and too small to be easily discovered in a book store or on a news stand. Some would retain the present size because it is convenient for librarians who wish to carry it about with them. As to this, it would be easy to discover for every library person who carries about, for use, a copy of the *Book List* at least 10 who find it easy to carry, for pleasure, copies of the *Saturday Evening Post* and the *Ladies Home Journal*.

Having a proper name and being of a reasonable size, the *Book List* should be widely advertised. Thus advertised it would almost surely soon pay for itself, instead of calling, for support, on the benefaction of the ultra rich as it now does to the extent of \$1,500 to \$2,000 per year.

5. The A. L. A. should proceed to lessen the dominance of library schools and their graduates. The doings of these occupy too many pages of our library periodicals. Our library schools are admirable; but we should note the growing tendency of graduates to form a caste and to serve in a measure as labor unions. The tendency is entirely proper in itself, but may easily lead to results injurious to our calling. Our schools have not been laid out and are not conducted in accordance with recommendations from experts in pedagogy. They almost inevitably tend to exalt technique and routine. Library management is in its infancy; its development should not be dominated by a body which from its very nature tends to be conservative in an academic and narrow way.

6. The Executive board should discover some method of holding occasional meetings near large cities. This for the reason that railway connections make it much less expensive to attend a meeting near a large city than at almost any summer resort.

The summer resort has its advantages, so has the idea of carrying the sweetness and light of the A. L. A. to distant and benighted parts. But many now believe that for a time at least our missionary and seclusive tendencies may profitably be abated.

7. The Executive committee should take up seriously the subject of the location of A. L. A. headquarters. Certain conditions in the east several years ago made it then seem impossible to locate headquarters where it preëminently belongs, in or near New York City. Moreover it was said that from a headquarters in Chicago there could be easily extended to the relatively few and

widely scattered libraries in the West a most helpful and inspiring influence. Possibly these emanations have come forth as freely and as helpfully as was hoped. But after all the purpose of headquarters is not so much to help libraries in any special section as to centralize all our general library activity, all our coöperating power and thus promote the welfare of the association, of individual libraries, and take to the general public through such agencies as the *Book List*, for the general public's delight and improvement, some of the results of our special knowledge and skill. Now New York is not only the commercial and manufacturing and population center of this country, it is also the library and the book and journal publishing center. At least five times as many persons interested in library work are found within a five hour ride of New York as are within the same distance from Chicago.

This is not a question of East or West, but of general welfare of the association, rather, of the possibilities for increasing the standing and influence of libraries and librarians.

JOHN COTTON DANA.

Newark (N. J.) public library.

The Death of Francis F. Browne

Francis F. Browne, founder and editor of *The Dial*, died May 10 at Santa Barbara, California, where he had gone for his health. Mr Browne was a soldier in the war between the states and at its close he studied law for a time but in 1869, he became editor of the *Western Monthly*, later the *Lakeside Monthly*. *The Dial* was founded in 1880 by Mr Browne and he remained its editor till the last. The property of *The Dial* became his in 1892.

He was the author and editor of a number of books and collections and enjoyed a wide acquaintance among a host of literary friends. Mr Browne was the guest of the A. L. A. at Pasadena, Cal., in 1911, and gave an address at one of the general meetings.

Pacific Northwest Library Association

Tacoma, Wash., June 12-14.

Program

First session:

Thursday evening, June 12.

1. Address of welcome.....
The Rt Rev F. W. Keator, president,
Board of trustees, Tacoma, Wash.
2. Response.....E. O. S. Scholefield,
librarian, Provincial library, British
Columbia, and president, Pacific North-
west library association.
3. Address..Opportunity and social action
Prof Walter G. Beach, Department of
sociology, University of Washington.

Second session:

Friday morning, June 13.

Reports of officers.

Appointment of committees.

General topic.....Library extension work

Leader....Cornelia Marvin, secretary,
Oregon library commission.

1. State library extension through
county and other systems.....

.....Miss Marvin

2. County work and stations in thinly
settled districts.....

....Corinne Metz, librarian, Public
library, The Dalles, Ore.

....Della Northey, librarian, Pub-
lic library, Hood River, Ore.

....Nelly Fox, head of county de-
partment, Library association,
Portland Ore.

3. Deposit stations...Annabel Porter,
Public library, Tacoma Wash.

4. Rural school libraries....Josephine
Corliss Preston, superintendent
of public instruction, Washing-
ton.

5. Helping the immigrant.....Dalza
Sawyer, public schools, Tacoma

Friday afternoon.

The representatives of the various states
will meet for short state conferences.

Members of the association will be given
an auto trip by the Tacoma Chamber
of Commerce.

Third session:

Friday evening, June 13.

General topic.....

.....The library and the municipality

Leader.....Judson T. Jennings,
librarian, Public library, Seattle, Wash.

1. The status of the library in a com-
mission form of government.....

....George W. Fuller, librarian,
Public library, Spokane, Wash.

2. Municipal reference work.....

....Dubois Mitchell, reference de-

partment, Public library, Seattle, Wash.

3. To what extent should the library become a social center?.....
....Mary Frances Isom, librarian, Library association, Portland, Oregon.

Fourth session:

Saturday morning, June 14.

Reports of committees.

General topic.....The small library
Leader.....Eliza E. Townsend, superintendent of branches, Public library, Spokane, Wash.

1. From the trustee's point of view..
....Frank H. Lamb, trustee, Public library, Hoquiam, Wash.
....Mrs J. S. McKee, trustee, public library, Hoquiam, Wash.
2. From the financial point of view..
....Grace E. Switzer, librarian, Public library, Bellingham, Wash.
3. From the bookman's point of view
....William D. Wilson, Seattle, Wash.
4. From the reference point of view:
The use of free publications.....
....Charles H. Compton, head of reference department, Public library, Seattle, Wash.

National Educational Association

Library department

Annual meeting, Salt Lake City

Monday, July 7, a. m.

Topic: The Library and the elementary school.

Connecting the public schools with the public library—Howard R. Driggs, Salt Lake City, Utah.

The training of teachers in a knowledge of children's books—Mrs Philander P Claxton, Washington, D. C.

The library hour in the schools—Harriet A. Wood, Public library, Portland, Oregon.

Discussion led by Joanna Sprague, Public library, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Notable recent books for children. Symposium conducted by Effie Power, Public library, St. Louis.

At this meeting there will be an exhibition of children's books and various library aids for teachers, also of public library work for public schools.

Wednesday, July 9

(Joint session with rural and agricultural department)

Topic: The library and the rural community.

Libraries for rural communities—Dr

Philander P. Claxton, commissioner of education, Washington, D. C.

Rural school libraries, their needs and possibilities—O. S. Rice, State education department, Madison, Wis.

The influence of the agricultural college on the farmer's use of books—William M. Hepburn, Purdue university, Lafayette, Ind.

Discussion: L. R. Alderman, superintendent of public instruction, Salem, Oregon.

Ernest E. Balcomb, State normal and industrial college, Greensboro, N. C.

E. M. Phillips, Rural school commissioner, St. Paul, Minn.

Mary L. Jones, County library, Los Angeles, California.

There will be an interesting exhibit by the League of library commissions showing library work for rural districts, typical rural school libraries, neighborhood libraries, etc.

Friday, July 11, 1913

Topic: The best use of libraries in high schools and normal schools.

Report of committee on normal school libraries in the United States—Ida M. Mendenhall, chairman.

Training high school students in the use of a library—Lucile Fargo, North Central high-school, Spokane, Washington.

Topics suggested for brief five or three-minute talks by teachers and school librarians.

How can we create the right attitude toward required reading?

Ways of interesting high school students in good reading.

How can the school library best aid in the work of each department?

Library lessons in the grades.

Length and number of lessons.

Subjects taught in the different grades.

Practice lessons given by students.

Courses in children's literature given by normal school students.

Number of lessons. Best helps. Results.

State law requiring such lessons.

Question box: Some problems of school librarians.

Note: For information as to railroad rates, routes, excursions, etc., write to A. G. Mackenzie, chairman of Publicity committee, N. E. A., Salt Lake City, Utah.

Local arrangements for the Library department are in the hands of Esther Nelson, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Joanna Sprague, Public library, Salt Lake City.

Reduced round trip fares to Salt Lake City are authorized for all N. E. A. delegates and friends. The fares from a few of the principal points are given below. Tickets will be on sale from nearly all points in the United States on a similar basis.

Buffalo, N. Y., \$62.20; Chicago, Ill.,

\$43.00; Cleveland, O., \$55.00; Denver, Colo., \$22.50; New York City, \$76.30; Los Angeles, \$35.00. Final return limit, Oct. 31. Stop-overs allowed at all points west of Missouri River.

New York State Meeting

The twenty-third annual meeting of the New York state library association will be held September 22-27, inclusive, at the Sagamore, on Lake George. Railroad fares, hotel rates and details of the program will be announced later.

A cordial invitation is extended to workers throughout New York state and elsewhere to attend.

All who have once enjoyed "library work" at Lake George will wish to go again while it is hoped that those who have not, will take this opportunity to become acquainted with fellow-workers and to get to know the beauties of the region.

ADELAIDE BOWLES MALTBY,
Secretary, N. Y. L. A.

New England College Librarians Annual meeting at New Haven, Conn.

The 1913 meeting of the New England college librarians was held at Yale university under the auspices of the library, on Saturday, April 26, 60 people being present. The meeting was called to order at ten o'clock by Dr Schwab of Yale, and continued until five, with intermission for luncheon, which was served in Memorial hall. The following from a large number of topics suggested for discussion were chosen by informal vote and were taken up in order:

The arrangement of cards under place names, with the future of the card catalog;

Staff conditions, including staff meetings, change of occupations of the staff, and vacations;

Library budget and cost of administration.

Before the discussion of these subjects the reports of the committees on Student instruction and on the Organization of the association were read and voted on.

Instructing students in the use of the library

The committee consisting of Ralph K. Jones, librarian of the University of Maine, Isabella M. Cooper, instructor in reference at Simmons college, N. L. Goodrich, librarian of Dartmouth college, and John A. Lowe, librarian of Williams college, reported as follows:

In preparing its report the committee has had before it data collected by Secretary Utley of the American library association in response to his questionnaire of last October, including replies from 23 New England colleges. These replies show that some instruction in the use of the library is being given in 14 of these colleges, but in most cases not over two hours, and this generally in coöperation with the English department. At Simmons, a one-hour-a-week course extending through the freshman year is required of all students registered in the library and secretarial curricula. At Bates, instruction equal to one hour a week for the fall semester has been required as part of the freshman work in English. At Maine, eight hours instruction in the use of the library has been given by the librarian to a portion of the freshman class by an arrangement made by the head of the English department.

The committee made the following inquiries of the 32 universities, colleges, and technical schools in New England:

1. Do your freshmen know how to use a library to advantage when they enter college?

2. Do you regard a course for freshmen on "books and libraries" one hour a week for the fall semester, as desirable?

3. Could your faculty be persuaded to require such a course?

4. Please state what you believe should be included in such a course to make it of the greatest possible value.

Replies were received from 27 of the 32 librarians to whom they were sent, including all who have ever been present at any of the meetings of this association. In 23 of these it was stated definitely, and in many cases very emphatic-

ally, that a majority of the freshmen do not to know how to use a library to advantage. Only one expressed the contrary opinion, although three others were not positive enough to count on either side.

Twenty-three were of the opinion that a one-hour-week course for one semester for freshmen on "books and libraries" is desirable while seven were of the contrary opinion. Although a few optimists believe that faculties might be persuaded to require such a course, there is pretty general agreement that under existing conditions it is not probable that they can be persuaded to do so.

The committee is agreed that graduates of secondary schools should know how to use dictionaries, encyclopedias, atlases, magazine indexes, and other reference books; what catalogs may be expected to show and how to use them; at least a little of bibliographies, general and special, and something of the physical make-up and care of the book. If the graduates of the schools go to college handicapped by lack of elementary library knowledge, most of them will be forced to acquire it at some time during their college course. The much greater number of graduates of the schools who do not go to college are obliged to enter their life work handicapped by the lack of training in, and ability to use, books and libraries which the schools should have given them. College librarians are in positions to recognize this defect in the schools and to urge those in authority to see that it is remedied.

We should be able to agree upon what we regard as essentials and then try to devise means to bring about better conditions. We ought to see that minimum requirements for secondary school libraries are formulated. We should endeavor to do our part in supplying teachers who can act as librarians and give library instruction in the schools in connection with other teaching, for the colleges furnish a large proportion of the teachers in the secondary schools, and library instruction in normal schools will relieve the difficulty only in a small degree.

The replies to the query as to what should be included in a freshman course on books and libraries are summarized for consideration:

1. The catalog; its purposes, arrangement, use.
2. Classification; its purpose, method.
3. Reference books and indexes, general and special.
4. Public documents.
5. Periodicals, general and special.
6. The book; its development, make-up, principal parts, care, value.
7. Bibliographical tools.
8. Making a bibliography.
9. Book selection (including choice of editions) and purchase.
10. The library; its history, equipment, advantages.
11. Inspirational, as suggested by Koopman's *Mastery of books*.

The committee desires to suggest to the A. L. A. Publishing Board the need for the publication of a text book suitable for use in freshman classes, either as an independent course or in connection with courses already required in English, history, etc. Such a book should include not only the necessary text but give also a considerable number of problems to be worked out in the library as a laboratory.

The committee recommends also that the Library section of the National education association be asked to consider further the need of library instruction in secondary schools and to continue its efforts in that direction.

The committee is agreed upon the need of student instruction in the use of the college library, so long as the present lack of knowledge exists among the graduates of secondary schools. Its members are not agreed as to whether this instruction may be given to best advantage by members of the library staff or by other members of college faculties as part of their courses.* How much and just what this instruction should include will vary with local conditions.

*Here Mr Goodrich dissents and "recommends a concerted movement among librarians toward the establishment of the fol-

lowing condition: that in every course which begins a subject the instructor shall be expected to devote at least two lecture hours to the bibliography of that subject, with special reference to the use of the local library; the actual instruction to be given by the instructor or the librarian as may be decided, but always with the understanding that the work is an essential part of the course in question."

The report of the committee was accepted and they were requested to continue their work for another year.

Dr Koopman of Brown reported for the Committee on organization of the association and brought up the following points:

1. Not to merge with the Eastern college librarians. (Motion made and passed.)

2. The association to hold but one meeting a year, and that in the spring, unless it seems advisable to change the time. (Passed.)

3. To appoint a standing committee to assist the secretary, consisting of the librarian of the college where the association last met and the librarian of the college where the next meeting is to be held. (Passed.)

4. Admission of members not on the staff of degree-granting institutions. (No action taken.)

5. Annual dues. (Voted not to establish a system of dues.) Dr Wilson was unanimously elected secretary for the coming year.

The business being disposed of, Mr Fletcher of Amherst opened the subject of the arrangement under place names in the card catalog. The practices in several libraries were compared and their advantages and disadvantages discussed. The point was brought out that, after all, the catalog is for the librarian, and the ideal solution of the difficulty of its use by the public is the presence of an official to assist the public.

The kindred subject of "The future of the card catalog" was first presented by Mr Currier of Harvard and then commented on by others.

Miss Clark of Smith introduced the matter of staff meetings and several librarians compared notes. The general

opinion was that such meetings are advantageous. Miss Clark also advocated change of occupations of the staff as a relief from tension. This was discussed, but the general feeling seemed to be that real efficiency must come as the result of specializing.

At the second session the question of vacations and sick leave was first taken up. The vacations, as reported by different librarians, varied from one month to three, and the sick leave varied even more.

Dr Schwab then took up the subject of the library budget, explaining its nature and how it is evolved through the experience of past years. The allied topic of cost of administration grew out of the discussion of the budget, and the question was raised as to what proportion the cost of administration should bear to the cost of book purchases. Some figures from a library paper were quoted to show that in a library whose income is small, say under \$20,000, the tendency is to have the amount spent on books exceed that spent on administration, and above that figure the reverse is true.

At five the conference broke up. Dr Wilson invited the association to meet with him at Clark university next spring, which invitation was gladly accepted. A vote of thanks was extended to Dr Schwab and Mr Keogh as hosts, and all expressed their enjoyment and appreciation of the success of the meeting.

LOUIS N. WILSON,
Secretary.

Encyclopaedia Britannica Yearbook.

The publishers of the Encyclopaedia Britannica yearbook refuse to issue an edition on ordinary paper, unless a sale of 750 copies is guaranteed. Librarians who prefer such an edition may send their orders to the chairman of the A. L. A. committee on binding.

In the opinion of the Committee on binding, the thin paper edition is not suitable for library use.

A. L. BAILEY, Chairman,
A. L. A. Committee on Binding
Wilmington (Del.) institute free library.

Library Meetings

Chicago.—The last meeting of the season was held on Thursday evening, May 8, at Lincoln Center. About 125 members attended the dinner and afterward enjoyed the music and dancing.

The following officers were elected for the year 1913-14: President, C. J. Barr, assistant-librarian of the John Crerar library; first vice-president, Mary W. Wood, Blackstone branch of Chicago public library; second vice-president, Mary Van Horne, librarian, Art institute; secretary, Agnes Peterson, Newberry library; treasurer, Cora M. Gettys, University of Chicago.

HELEN HUTCHINSON,
Secretary.

Georgia.—The tenth meeting of the Georgia library association was held in Atlanta, Monday and Tuesday, April 28-29, at Carnegie library.

The first session was opened by a welcome from Willis M. Everett, president of the Board of Trustees. Dr J. H. T. McPherson, of Athens, president of the Georgia library association, delivered the accustomed address, which was followed by the report of the secretary.

The meeting was then given over to "Some special phases of library work." Mrs Maud Barker, state librarian, told of the work of the State library; William H. Moyer, warden of the Federal prison, told of the library now operated in the prison, and also told of his plans for future development of the library's work. Mr Moyer invited the members of the association to visit the prison library, and many spent the afternoon in a most interesting visit.

Orpha Zoe Massey, librarian of the library of the Retail Credit Company, told of the very unique library which is operated there and showed what a very active part the library plays in the rating of the employees of the company.

Mrs Eugene B. Heard, of Middleton, who was to have told of the system of traveling libraries which she sends throughout the territory covered by the

Seaboard Air Line Railway, was detained by illness.

Telegrams of congratulation were read from several absent members, and from Mrs Anne Wallace Howland, of Boston, who organized the Georgia library association in 1897.

Invitations were presented, inviting the association to attend several interesting events during the afternoon given in honor of the delegates to the Sociological congress in session in the city.

The afternoon hours were left free for visits to the neighboring libraries, and delegates divided their time between the two branch libraries, the Anne Wallace branch and the Oakland City branch, and some of the college libraries.

In the evening, Dr Arthur E. Bostwick gave a most interesting lecture on "The activities of a large library system," illustrated by stereopticon views of the St. Louis public library. The lecture was followed by an informal reception, at which the Board of Trustees and their wives and the library staff acted as hosts.

Tuesday morning was given to a round table discussion of the "Problems of a small public library," conducted by Miss Alexander, assistant librarian, Carnegie library of Atlanta, who also led the discussion on cataloging. Miss Bradley, head of the circulation department, led the discussion of circulation problems, and Miss Barker, head of the reference department, led the discussion of reference problems, and exhibited many new aids to reference work. On account of the late hour, the discussions of work with children, and training for library work, by Miss Whitaker and Mrs Percival Sneed, respectively, were omitted, and the reports from the small libraries of the state were presented by their librarians. Ten libraries were represented, and interesting reports showed splendid work done throughout the state.

The reports were followed by a delightful paper from Dr Bostwick on the "Art of re-reading," and many good resolutions to re-read the old favorites were made during the reading of Dr Bostwick's paper.

The Tuesday afternoon session was held at the library of the Georgia school of technology. Miss Hammond, the librarian, and her assistant, Miss Julia Hammond, welcomed the visitors, and were assisted by President K. G. Matheson, who spoke in most glowing terms of the good work that was accomplished by the college libraries. E. L. Boogher, of the library committee, also spoke to the visitors.

In the absence of Duncan Burnet, librarian of the University of Georgia library (who was called home a few hours before the session, by illness in his family), Mrs Percival Sneed, principal of the Library training school of Carnegie library, presided over this session. Reports from the librarians of Georgia school of technology, Agnes Scott college, Emory college, Mercer university, Wesleyan college, Brenau college, and Bessie Tift college were presented and showed excellent work done during the past year. Miss Hammond then invited the visitors to inspect her library building, and to examine her collection of old books, among which are some excellent incunabulae.

The report of the nominating committee was unanimously adopted, and the following officers were elected: President, Chancellor David C. Barrow, Athens; vice-presidents Mrs Eugene B. Heard, H. H. Stone, Duncan Burnet, Wm. Harden; secretary - treasurer, Katherine H. Wootten. Invitations for the next meeting were received from several cities but it was finally decided to accept the invitation presented by Mrs Nina Holstead for the Carnegie library of Columbus.

The tenth meeting was the largest and most representative meeting ever held by the association, 16 cities of Georgia having delegates. There were also several visitors from cities which are now planning libraries. Mollie Norman, librarian of Union Springs, brought greetings from Alabama, and Mary Bell Palmer, librarian of Charlotte, represented North Carolina. Georgia now has 22 public libraries and three more are in process of construction.

Louisiana.—The third annual meeting of the Louisiana state library association was held at Donaldsonville, April 11-12, in the Donaldsonville high school and Public library. Addresses of welcome were given by Hon. Charles Maurin and by Dr J. S. Thibaut. After a few words of response, William Beer, president of the association, spoke on library extension in Louisiana, striking the keynote of the meeting by stressing the importance of securing a library commission for the state. Inez Mortland, librarian of Louisiana state university, followed with a paper on "The work of state library commissions." An animated discussion took place.

The afternoon session opened with a paper by Annie Laurie Pujos on "Fiction in our public libraries," which subject started much amusing comment. Eleanor Mitchell discussed "The branch library." Miss Ducros, of Newcomb college, whose work while children's librarian of the New Orleans public library resulted in the enlarging of the building to adequately meet the demands of growth, read a delightful paper entitled "In the children's room." Reports from librarians followed, stating progress and plans.

At the close of the second session, a motor trip was taken to Salsburg plantation, in which beautiful home the association members were the guests of Miss Hays. On Friday evening, a reception was given the association by Mrs Ferdinand Lemann at her home in Donaldsonville.

The third and business session was held on Saturday morning. Report of the traveling library committee was given. The committee reported between five and six hundred books prepared for circulation, and that traveling cases had been acquired by purchase and gift, forms of application and readers' slips printed, etc. A sample traveling library was exhibited. It was reiterated that the purpose of the association in sending out these libraries, and incidentally enlarging the collection, was for purposes of demonstration, and to arouse interest in

securing a state library commission for Louisiana.

The motion was carried that the association present a library commission bill to the next general assembly.

The following officers were elected: President, J. R. Thornton, Alexandria; first vice-president, Minnie M. Bell, New Orleans; second vice-president, George Hathaway, Jennings; secretary, Helen Wells Dodd, New Orleans; treasurer, Inez Mortland, Baton Rouge. Executive committee, William Beer, New Orleans; J. S. Thibaut, Donaldsonville.

After the business session, a question box was conducted by Miss Dodd.

Suitable resolutions were voted, expressing appreciation of the exceptional interest, enthusiasm and hospitality of the people of Donaldsonville.

The association numbers 71 members.

HELEN WELLS DODD,
Secretary.

Massachusetts.—The spring meeting of the Old Colony library club was held in Bridgewater, March 27.

Special addresses were by Arthur C. Boyden, principal of the Bridgewater state normal school, on "Librarians and educational aid," and by Robert K. Shaw, librarian of the Worcester public library, on "Library appropriation and the preparation of a budget."

W. W. Bryant told of the work undertaken by the Committee on coöperation in different localities of the community.

A round table on library matters was conducted by Lucy B. Crain of the West Somerville branch library. The topic for discussion was "The work of the library with the schools and younger readers."

A book review was conducted in the afternoon by Joshua Crane, librarian in Taunton.

NELLIE THOMAS,
Secretary.

Oregon.—The Multnomah library club which has recently been formed to include all who are interested or engaged in library work in Multnomah county,

Oregon, held its second meeting in the North Portland branch of the Portland public library on Friday evening, March 28. George H. Himes, librarian of the Oregon historical society, gave an illustrated talk on "Early Oregon history."

Memorial Meeting for Dr Billings

Memorial exercises on the life and services of the late Dr John Shaw Billings, director of the New York public library, who died on March 11, were held before a notable company, in the galleries of the New York public library building on Fifth avenue, April 25.

The first address was by Dr S. Weir Mitchell, one of Dr Billings' oldest and closest friends. He spoke of the great work of Dr Billings in his early years, in the Civil War, and told of the splendid services of Dr Billings in organizing hospital service and his extremely fine work as a surgeon, not only in these hospitals but oftentimes in temporary quarters near the field of battle.

Sir William Osler, for 30 years a close friend of Dr Billings, brought officially a tribute of respect from the Bibliographical society of England, of which he was president. He paid honor to the tremendous work which Dr Billings did in the surgeon-general's department, and said that when his other work is swallowed in oblivion, Dr Billings will live in enduring fame in his great index.

Dr William H. Welsh paid tribute in behalf of the Johns Hopkins medical college and of the medical profession in general.

Andrew Carnegie paid tribute to Dr Billings, as one with whom he had been associated intimately in library affairs.

Richard R. Bowker brought the tribute of the American library association, New York library club, New York state library association and the homage of the entire library profession to the memory of Dr Billings and his work.

John L. Cadwalader, president of the New York public library, was chairman of the meeting, and with him on the platform were many distinguished citizens.

Unwise Library Legislation in Canada.

In the Province of Ontario, there is an Ontario library association which meets every year. There are also in the province library institutes during the year at various centres. These and the Ontario library association have been strongly supported by the present government and been greatly helped in their work of endeavoring to make the public library an efficient educational institution in every municipality. This association has a legal committee which met recently at the call of the Government to discuss proposed amendments to the public libraries act. The membership of this legal committee is composed of those who belong to public library boards, the three being Hon. Mr Justice Kelly, Judge A. S. Hardy and Norman Gurd, B. C. L.

It was with a good deal of surprise that after all these meetings had been held this Spring, it was suddenly discovered in the closing days of the session of the legislature in what is known as an "omnibus" bill containing statute law amendments for the session, there had been inserted a clause by which the public library board in a community, instead of being made up of three persons appointed by the municipal council, three by the board of education, and three by the separate school board, it was now to consist of three persons appointed by the city council and six school teachers appointed by the board of education and the separate school board.

It was quite within the powers of school boards to have nominated teachers in the past, and in many cases this was done, but generally speaking the nominations have been of representative business men inasmuch as the public library was looked upon as a public institution.

There has been no act of the legislature for many years that aroused the storm of protest that came as a result of this. The amendment to the act had passed its third reading and nobody in connection with public libraries anywhere in the province had known any-

thing about the matter. The result of the avalanche of telegrams and storms of protest was that this particular clause in the bill was set aside and will not come into force until such time as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council makes such a decree. That is the British way of practically putting an end to an act which has not met the approbation of public opinion.

The change would have taken from the library boards some of the most prominent persons and efficient trustees in the Province. In Toronto, for instance, the Hon. Mr Justice Kelly who has been on the Board for 18 years, Mr W. T. J. Lee, for 16 years, Chief Justice Sir Glenholme Falconbridge; Mr Witton, the chairman of the Public library board of Hamilton, who is known throughout the province for his interest in library work, and Mr Milne of Hamilton, chairman of the Building committee to whom the city owes the erection of the magnificent new Carnegie library, and many others.

It was only at the Ottawa meeting of the A. L. A. that the Inspector of public libraries, Mr Nursey, said that it was the special pride of Ontario that they had been able to interest in public library work the most important men in the communities.

One of the interesting discoveries in connection with the protest against the act was that Mrs Hanna, wife of the Provincial secretary, who is a member of the Ontario Government, would be forced off the board in the town of Sarnia. Mrs Hanna has been a particularly enthusiastic worker in connection with the public library of her town.

In opposition to the measure it was explained to the Minister of education, that public libraries do not deal solely with children, that this is after all a small portion of their work, and that the educational features of public library work are entirely different from the educational features of school work. It was pointed out that for manufacturers, welfare associations, labor bodies, civic and study

clubs, even for the municipalities themselves, the libraries were doing special work and that the work with children was only a division of the work of a library. It was also pointed out that to turn over to school teachers, who are to a certain extent migratory and persons without definite business training, property worth millions of dollars for them to administer would be poor business, and further that if it was thought that teachers were the best people for public library boards, the boards of education have always had the opportunity for appointing such as their representatives upon the board.

The work of the public library deals with children as such and not with school children, and the supervision of their work is a part of public library business and not of school teachers.

One of the interesting phases that came as a result of this proposed amendment was that some school teachers in the city of Toronto thought that because there was criticism of this action by the Board that therefore there was a reflection upon the work of school teachers. There was no reflection upon the work of school teachers as such, but a long letter from one teacher which appeared in all the papers in the city of Toronto was the very best illustration of why school teachers should not be entrusted with business interests. The letter displayed what we find in the N. E. A., a deplorable lack of understanding of what a public library really does, and emphasizes what has been said more than once, that the librarian knows more about the work of the school teachers and appreciates more the problems of such work than does the teacher of the work of the librarian and its problems.

Dr Henry Van Dyke, the well-known author, has presented a library to the Grenfel Seaman's Institute at St. Johns, N. F., as a memorial to his daughter who died last year. Dr Van Dyke personally selected the library which is largely fiction and numbers 175 v.

Library Schools

Carnegie library of Pittsburgh

Training school for children's librarians

Mary Wright Plummer, principal of the library school, New York public library, visited the school and gave two lectures on "Applied poetry" and "The seven joys of reading," Friday, May 2.

Mrs Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen, instructor in the School of education, University of Chicago, Illinois, gave nine lectures on story telling to the class May 5-9. Thursday evening, May 8, Mrs Thomsen told stories in the East Liberty branch auditorium, to which invitations were issued.

Other visiting lecturers for May were: Edwin Hatfield Anderson, assistant-director of New York public library, New York City. Two lectures (illustrated) on the "Work of the New York public library."

Edward L. Tilton of New York, architect, two lectures (illustrated) on "Library buildings," May 29.

During the Spring term examinations were given in "Lending systems" "Library work with schools," "Ordering and accessioning" and "Home library work."

The school closes for the Spring term June 9 and re-opens for the Summer term June 16. Courses bullentined for the Summer term are:

- Aids to library economy, Miss Mann.
- Book binding, Arthur Bailey.
- Book selection for children, Miss Knapp.
- Book selection for children, Miss Randall.
- Branch extension work, Miss Howard.
- Business methods, Mr Wright.
- Classified catalog, Miss Mann.
- Departmental routine, Miss Law.
- Modern public library movement in America, Miss Bogle.
- Routine work of branch library, Miss Howard.
- Seminar for periodical review, Miss McCurdy.

The cataloging, and story telling courses extend into and through the term.

During the Summer term the students are scheduled two periods a week for practice work in the summer playgrounds. In connection with the play-

ground work a series of lectures will be given by members of the Pittsburgh playground association.

New York public library

Visits have been made by the juniors to the libraries of Columbia university, Teachers' college, Cooper Union, the Mercantile and Society libraries, and those of the Wadleigh and Morris high-schools. The class also visited the East Orange library with its branches and the Budget exhibit prepared by "the Oranges," in which the several town libraries bore an important part.

The seniors in administration spent two hours at "The Lighthouse," headquarters for work with the blind in this city, the party being conducted by Miss Goldthwaite, of the Division for work with the blind in this library, and Mrs Delfino of the Philadelphia free library. Afterward Mrs Delfino gave an hour to discussion of the work in its present stage throughout the U. S.

Juniors and seniors together listened to an interesting and informing address from John Collier of the National Board of Censorship of moving picture shows, on May 9. The general feeling seemed to be that it would take a course of lectures to do the subject justice.

Miss L. E. Stearns of Wisconsin and Miss Alice Tyler of Iowa were recent guests of the school, the former speaking on "The library militant" and on "Pioneer library work in Wisconsin," and the latter on the "Work of the library commission." Students had the pleasure of meeting Miss Tyler at tea, and Miss Stearns at a campfire picnic of the school on Staten Island.

Mrs Luther Gulick, one of its originators, spoke lately to juniors and seniors on the "Campfire girls' movement," exhibiting the regalia, symbols, etc., of the members.

The work in book-sewing, pamphlet and magazine binding, and portfolio-making, under Miss Murray of the library staff, has come to an end, the tangible results being some good pieces of work for the students to carry away

with them and a set of very nice models for the school's collections.

A May party was given by the school on the evening of May 9, which proved one of the most delightful occasions of the year.

Several juniors are giving their practice time to work on the index of the Catholic encyclopaedia, the headquarters of which are near at hand.

In May, Mrs C. B. Kelliher of the senior class leaves New York for Oregon, to become librarian of the Municipal reference branch of the Portland library.

Miss Olmsted of the senior class resigned her position in this library to become cataloger of the New York school of philanthropy, May 10. She will continue her work in the school.

Miss Melvain (N. J.) and Miss Newberry (Mich.) of the senior class have been engaged for the reference-catalog room and the main reading-room of this library.

Miss Simonds of the junior class begins work June 1, as librarian of the New York institution for the blind.

In the next report, we hope to be able to state the probable location of next year's seniors in the library system.

Several applications for senior work have been received from graduates of other schools.

MARY W. PLUMMER,
Principal.

New York state library

Because of the continued ill health of Miss Wheeler, the course in Selection of books has been continued by Miss Eastwood under whose general direction it was opened at the beginning of the year. Rev Charles F. Porter (1908), of the Educational extension division, has given the lectures and conducted the discussions in religion and philosophy.

Visiting lecturers since school work was resumed in April have been:

On April 18, George Iles: Appraisal of literature. Mr Iles' address has since been published under the title "A bureau of review" and sent by him to a number of libraries.

April 21, Bessie Sargeant Smith, supervisor of smaller branches, Cleveland public library, "Branch libraries." Miss Smith's lecture dwelt at some length on the resemblances and differences in the work of a branch librarian and of the librarian of an independent library.

April 29, Alice S. Tyler, secretary Iowa library commission, two lectures on "Commission work, its relations to library work in general."

F. K. WALTER.

Pratt institute

The work of the third term consists of two mornings a week (and an occasional afternoon period) of class-room work during which the courses in history of classification, Cutter classification, printing, business methods, library administration seminar, and children's work are given. Miss Plummer's course in history of libraries and Mr Eastman's on library buildings also come this term, and the elective course in Italian that was so successful last year is offered again. The rest of the time, about 28 hours a week, throughout the term is spent in practical work. Most of this work is done here in our own library, but thanks to the courtesy of neighboring libraries, students under appointment to definite positions, or intending to take up distinct kinds of work are enabled to get practice along special lines. One student is working two afternoons a week in the Erasmus Hall high-school library, one in the library of the Children's museum, one spends a day a week in the Traveling libraries department of the Brooklyn public library, and one is acquiring experience in the administration of a smaller town library by working at Mt. Vernon, N. Y., and Englewood, N. J.

The class have enjoyed lectures from Miss Stearns and from Miss Alice Tyler this month and an informal talk from Mr Brett who talked to them about the special children's course given by the Cleveland public library. As a result, two members of the class, Mary E. Hoover and Adeline Cartwright, have decided to go to Cleveland next year.

Friday afternoon visits were made

this month to Columbia university, the Hispanic society, Bureau of municipal research (where Dr W. H. Allen talked for an hour on "What public libraries can do for their city governments"), the Y. W. C. A. library, the Newark public library, and the Public library of Madison, N. J. The latter was in response to an especial invitation extended by the Board.

Alumni notes

Ada Thurston, 1902, who has been an assistant in J. P. Morgan's library for some years, was a beneficiary under Mr Morgan's will for \$10,000.

Clara C. Field, 1905, has been made acting librarian of the Kern County library of California.

Janet Jerome, 1907, formerly assistant in the children's room of the Denver public library, has been appointed branch librarian of the Henry White Warren branch of that library.

Helen M. Davis, 1910, formerly children's librarian in the East branch of the Portland (Ore.) library, has been made librarian of the Public library of Franklin, Indiana.

Ingegard Ekman, 1911, writes of her success in establishing a children's library at her home in Gothenburg, Sweden.

Ethel H. Opdycke, 1911, was married April 26 to Alfred F. Meyerhans. They are living at Clifton Park, N. J.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,
Vice-Director.

Simmons college

During the past month the following lecturers have spoken to the students:

Langdon L. Ward, on The branches of the Boston public library; William H. Breet, an illustrated lecture on the Cleveland public library; Dr George E. Wire, on Library sanitation and housekeeping; Mrs Mary J. Cronan, two lectures on Story telling; Mary E. Hall, on Library work with high school teachers and pupils.

This year, April 26th was chosen for the day which the seniors and college graduates spend annually in the libraries of Providence, R. I.

Alumnae notes

Anna W. Barker, '07, who was librarian of the Wellesley, (Mass.) public library, is now head of the loan department of Osterhout free library, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Caroline M. Wilkinson, '07, was married on March 31 to William I. Carleton of East Bridgewater, Mass.

Edith M. Chichester, '09; Ruth B. McLean, '09; and Mildred M. Fuller, '10, have joined the staff of Yale university library.

Lulu Lawrence, A. B., '10, has become an assistant in the Waltham (Mass.) public library.

Annis B. Kane, '10, has resigned from the Leicester (Mass.) library to take a position in the Somerville (Mass.) public library.

Alice G. Kendall, '10, has resigned from the Boston Athenaeum to become assistant on the editorial staff of the *Publishers' Weekly*.

MARY E. ROBBINS,
Chairman library faculty.

Western Reserve university

During the past month, G. O. Ward, technical librarian of the Cleveland public library, has given 2 lectures to the students on "Technical book selection"; C. P. P. Vitz, second vice-librarian of the Cleveland public library, has begun a short course on "Reports and statistics" as a part of the course in library administration; Professor Allen Severance of the university here has given his course in general bibliography. The school has enjoyed the annual visit of Miss Alice Tyler of the Iowa state library commission, who gave 10 lectures on "The organization and administration of the small library."

A recent visitor to the school has been Miss Ethel Fegan, librarian of the Ladies college of Cheltenham, England, who spent a day here and spoke informally and very interestingly to the students. The students of the training school of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh while on their library visit to Cleveland were the guests at an afternoon tea given at the

school for Miss Tyler. The school has also had the pleasure of entertaining a party of members of the staff of the Detroit public library.

The out of town library trips are now being taken to places of library interest within an easy radius of Cleveland. Thus far the college library at Oberlin, the public library at Willoughby, the college and public libraries at Painesville, and the public libraries at Elyria and Lorain have been visited.

JULIA M. WHITTLESEY,
Director.

University of Wisconsin

The school has been particularly fortunate in the number and interest of the speakers who have given talks or addresses during the Spring term. Besides those already reported, President Plantz of Lawrence university spoke on Importance of self-culture. Mr William F. Seward, librarian of the Binghamton (N. Y.) public library, gave two lectures, one on Men and the library and one on Vocational guidance. Mr Seward brought with him samples of his advertising material, which made a most suggestive exhibit; Miss Ruth Goodwin of the Wellesley Graduate council, gave a talk on the Importance of alumni associations; and Miss Amy Homans, director of the department of physical education, Wellesley college, spoke to the students on Physical wellbeing.

William H. Brett, librarian of Cleveland public library, was the guest of the school for its annual May Day festival, lecturing also on "The Decimal classification as a logical scheme of notation," and giving two talks illustrated with lantern slides. These were on the Cleveland public library and its branches and the presidents of the A. L. A. On Saturday morning, May 3, Mr Brett addressed a large company of library workers and townspeople of Madison interested in the school on "The larger purpose of the public library."

The class gift, a beautiful colored print of the Old Blue Mill by Thaulow, was presented to the school by Mrs Koelker, the class president.

The guests were invited to view the exhibit of picture bulletins made by each of the students. The presence of a number of alumnae made the occasion especially pleasant. Among those from out of town were Margaret Reynolds, 1907, Gertrude Cobb and Margaret Greene, 1911, and Nell Fawcett and Ethel Robbins, 1912. The catalogs prepared by the committee and the attractiveness of the exhibit made an occasion not unlike a veritable reception at the opening of an art exhibition. Coffee was served and the rooms of the school were opened to visitors. There were 35 subjects selected for bulletins.

The courses in document cataloging, binding and book buying, with the required practice work in each subject, have been completed. The school is fortunate in having secured Miss Ethel F. McCollough, librarian of the Evansville (Ind.) public library and formerly instructor in the school, to give the lectures on Library administration and equipment. Subjects for bibliographies have been assigned and the students are at work upon them.

School notes

Agnes Dickerson, a senior in the joint course, was elected to Phi Beta Kappa this spring. Last year two students in the Library school, Alice Farquhar and Ruth Rice, received similar honors.

Myrtle Sette, '07, and Ruth Knowlton, '09, visited the school in April.

Tennessee

The University of Tennessee will give a six weeks' course for teacher-librarians from June 24 to August 1. This is the second year of the course and the instruction will be given by Miss Fay and Miss Eaton of the University library, with the cooperation of the State library commission.

Iowa

A summer school for library training will be held at Iowa City, as a department of the summer session of the University of Iowa, June 16-July 26. The work will be under the direction of Malcolm G. Wyer, librarian of the university, assisted

by Miss Tyler of the Iowa library commission, Miss Armstrong, librarian of the Public library of Council Bluffs, Miss Roberts, head cataloger of the University of Iowa, and in the work with children by Mrs Edna Lyman-Scott.

Lectures will be given also by members of the faculty of the university and visiting librarians.

Further information may be had from Malcolm G. Wyer, director, Iowa City Iowa.

Special class for work with children

The Cleveland public library, as a means of adding to the number of those trained for special work with children who may be available for the staff of that library, is giving 12 young women eight months' training in the practice and theory of children's work. The basis of the course is general library training, as given in a library school. Nine of the 12 students are library school graduates representing six different schools; three were received upon their personal qualifications and practical library experience.

The instruction covers lectures, recitations and practice work and the subjects comprise children's literature and the method of presentation, organization of children's work, child study and social problems. The students are given definite assignments under heads of children's rooms or as acting children's librarians in small rooms. Assignments are changed during the year, if necessary, to give a wider range of experience.

No tuition is charged, as the main purpose of the class is the maintenance and upbuilding of the staff of the children's department of the library.

In taking the course, however, the student enters into no obligation to remain on the staff, nor does the library guarantee a position to all those who qualify. Past experience of the needs of the library indicates, however, that there is likely to be an opportunity for all who care to continue in its service.

For further information regarding the course, address W. H. Brett, librarian, Cleveland public library, Cleveland, Ohio.

Interesting Things in Print.

The U. S. Bureau of education *Bulletin*, No. 31, Educational directory for 1912, includes a list of the executive officers of the 35 state library commissions.

The Massachusetts library club *Bulletin* for March contains a list of books on "Sex education and hygiene," prepared from material in the Brookline public library. Another important matter is a list of book mending supplies and where to obtain them.

The Public library of Bridgeport, Conn., issued a list of industrial and technical books, copies of which were distributed at the industrial exhibition held in that city April 1-5. It is a pamphlet of 26 pages, and covers every phase of technology, including accounts and scientific management.

A paper by Alice G. Tyler, secretary of the Iowa library commission, on "The public library in Commission governed cities," which appeared in the *National Municipal Review* for April, has been issued in a reprint. Library boards will find it helpful wherever the Commission form of government is proposed.

An interesting discussion of library work in the high school, by Marion Pryne of the Orange Union high school, Orange, California, to be found in the May number of the *Sierra Educational News*, contains a most rational presentation of this topic, which will be of interest not only to school librarians, but to librarians in general.

The Union list of collections on "European history in American libraries," compiled by E. C. Richardson, for the American historical society, has been issued in permanent form, price \$2. Those who have been interested in this useful paper on coöperative work, having used the proof edition for more than a year, will be glad to have it in this permanent shape.

The March number of *The American City* contains an article on "The children's free library and city education," by Frances Jenkins Olcott. In this, she re-

views the work of the modern public library, as illustrated by the efforts to train children to use books and the library in various cities throughout the United States. The home library, story telling and playground work are reviewed by Miss Olcott.

Part 2, Vol. 22, N. S., of the *Proceedings of the American antiquarian society*, is the Centennial issue of that society, marking the one-hundredth anniversary of the founding of the American antiquarian society.

The meeting was held in Worcester, October 15-16, 1912.

Beside the report of the business meeting, the report contains historical addresses and the speeches at the Centennial dinner by distinguished speakers and a list of the members and officers of the society, covering the period 1812-1912.

An address to the New York state library school, given by George Iles, April 18, 1913, under the title "Bureau of review," has been issued in pamphlet form.

Mr Iles' contentions are for a national bureau of review of literature which shall bring to the American public knowledge of new books, something after the manner of the *A. L. A. Booklist*. Until there is more available help than is at present in sight, there is absolutely no chance of such a bureau as Mr Iles has in mind.

Mr Iles calls the *Booklist* "the cornerstone of a thorough-going bureau of review."

The annual Magazine subject-index and Dramatic index for 1912, was issued in February. The size of the volume has increased to 600 pages, strongly bound in library buckram. Price \$7, delivery extra.

The Index includes 140 periodicals not elsewhere indexed and it covers very fully such subjects as history, travel and exploration, mountaineering, forestry, fine arts, architecture, out-of-door life, city planning, education and university problems, religion, etc.

The Dramatic index covers not only the magazines devoted to the drama, but includes dramatic criticisms in life and the dramatic articles, reviews and synopses of plays and illustrations in all popular magazines, the reviews and weeklies, which any library may have on file.

The volume is published by the Boston Book Co.

A preliminary outline of the City planning classification, by James S. Pray and Theodora Kimball of the School of landscape architecture, Harvard university was printed for distribution at the City planning convention recently held in Chicago.

A preface note states that the main headings with some indications of the material included therein are presented, in order to invite suggestion and criticism and a call is made for further information or inquiries from any who may be interested. A point is well put in this same note, and if properly considered by college and university professors, much misunderstanding would be obviated. Too few professors understand that to be generally useful any classification intended to cover the arrangement both of ideas and actual material, must be a compromise between a theoretical organization of the subject and an arrangement guided merely by existing material on the subject.

The scheme of classification is developed in accordance with the principles of the Library of Congress classification. A suggestion that might be offered is that in view of the fact that the great majority of the public libraries of the country are arranged on the Decimal classification, the D. C. numbers be given also for the assistance of those libraries already using them, or a relative index applying to the D. C. be added to the City planning classification.

The City planning classification scheme in permanent form will be issued June 1, and will be distributed by the Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Mass.

The scheme is interesting both from a bibliographic and historical standpoint.

Director Edwin H. Anderson

The appointment of Edwin Hatfield Anderson, since 1908 assistant director of the New York public library system, as successor to the late lamented director, Dr John S. Billings, is hardly a surprise. Not only was he in line for the promotion, but that the choice is in every way a fitting one, is the unanimous opinion of those who know Mr Anderson.

Mr Anderson was born in Indiana and is a member of a family eminent in professional life and among the substantial citizens in that state. He was graduated from Wabash college, Crawfordsville, in 1889, and four years later received his degree of Master of Arts from there. He was a student in the New York library school at Albany in 1890. He spent the next year in the Newberry library in Chicago, and then became librarian of the Carnegie free library at Braddock, Pa., 1892, where he remained until he was elected librarian of the Carnegie library in Pittsburg in 1895. He remained here 10 years, building up a library which became well-known for its progressiveness not only in this country but abroad. Mr Anderson left Pittsburg in 1905, to enter the business world, but returned to library work as Director of the New York state library and the library school in 1906. In 1908 he became assistant-director of the New York public library.

He has been president of the library associations of Pennsylvania and New York, and of the New York library club. He is a member of the American library association and its first vice-president.

Mr Anderson is a man of strong feeling, liking heartily and disliking as cordially. He is frank and direct in his dealing and has an unlimited fund of humor, which he uses as an effective means in solving a difficult problem. He was married in 1891 to Frances R. Plummer, of Glencoe, Ill., a sister of Mary Wright Plummer.

Mr Anderson has deservedly a host of friends, and the cordial good wishes of the library world will be with him in his new position.

News from the Field

East

John Hines Arnold after serving 41 years as librarian of the Harvard law school library has resigned. Mr Arnold has been employed by the University longer than any member of its teaching staff.

Laura R. Gibbs, for five years head of the catalog department in the library of Brown university, Providence, R. I., has resigned to become reviser in the catalog department on the library of Columbia university, New York City.

The annual report of the Deborah Cook Sayles library, Pawtucket, R. I., records a net circulation of 118,260 v. Fiction has dropped 2.2% during the year. The use of the books on useful and fine arts has increased over 50%. Number of cardholders, 8,160.

Mary Esther Robbins, who has had charge of Simmons college library school and library since the opening of the college in 1902, finishes her work there at the close of the academic year. Miss Robbins will have a free year before taking another library position. After July 1, her address will be Lakeville, Conn.

The Deborah Cook Sayles library of Pawtucket, R. I., has 40 collections of what is termed "stereographic traveling tours." A majority of these contain 100 views, the rest range down to 24 in the Yosemite valley. One "tour" with the stereoscope may be taken at a time on any borrower's card and kept one week.

These in connection with books of travel make an interesting department. The same rules that apply to books apply to the stereographic material.

The annual report of the Public library of Greenfield, Mass., records a circulation of 70,525 v., with 4,181 borrowers' cards in force and 27,117 v. on the shelves. The population of the town is 10,427.

The library is continuing its efforts to interest foreign-speaking residents. A

Polish traveling library has been lent by the Women's education association of Boston. These books, especially those on learning English, are much sought.

The annual report of the Public library of Lynn, Mass., Harriet L. Matthews librarian, shows a total number of volumes in the library, 92,249; pamphlets, 19,194; net increase in accessions, 3164 v.; new registration, 2102; circulation for home use, 242,421; receipts, \$22,000; expenditures for books and periodicals, city funds, \$3,110, special funds, \$1,335; salaries, \$13,992, including janitor services. Bequests received during the year were \$14,200.

The sixty-first report of the Public library of Boston, shows an appropriation from the city of \$367,165 and from trust funds an additional amount, making a total of \$403,123. Number of additions to the library, 35,538 v. About 13.6% of the entire expense of the library was spent for books at an average cost of \$1.50 a volume.

The total issue for use outside the library building was 1,744,878 v. The library has supplied books through 28 branches and reading rooms, 131 public and parochial schools, 61 engine houses and 31 other institutions.

The annual report of the Public library of Providence, R. I., shows 165,222 v. on the shelves; new borrowers' cards issued for the year, 10,453; total circulation for home use, 235,979 v. Of these 10,680 v. were issued from the foreign department of the central library, from 5,739 v. in 18 different languages.

Among the needs of the library mentioned, are more adequate provision for branches and an increased fund for buying new books, an increase in the binding fund and an increase in the staff of assistants, with adequate salaries.

The report contains a list of the periodicals and bulletins received by the library, numbering 982.

The annual report of the Free public

library of New Haven, Conn., for 1912, records receipts, \$40,959; expenditures, \$40,622. Of this, staff salaries were \$17,314; janitor service, \$3,012; books, \$9,733; binding, \$2,873; periodicals, \$1,150.

A branch library, opened in a public school in September, has exceeded all expectation and additional room is already required. A school department was organized in September, with Mabel H. Goodwin as the head of the department.

A weekly story hour was begun in May.

The home circulation was 405,491 (318,772 from the main library, 32,000 from the school branches, 54,629 from three branches and deposit collections); number of books on the shelves, 105,000, of which 12,025 were added during the year.

Central Atlantic

Louis C. Solyon, connected with the Library of Congress since 1867, died April 28, age 77 years. He was a linguist of exceptional ability, and was a valuable assistant in the catalog department.

The Public library of Allegheny City, Pa., which is now a part of the Pittsburgh library system, has received a gift of \$150,000 from Andrew Carnegie, to be used in an addition to the library building.

Adelaide F. Evans, Pratt 1902, now acting head cataloger of the Public library of Louisville, Ky., has accepted the position of head cataloger of the Newark public library, beginning work the middle of August.

At the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the New York public library held Wednesday, May 14, 1913, Mr Edwin H. Anderson, assistant director since June 1, 1908, was unanimously elected Director of the library to succeed the late Doctor John S. Billings.

The exhibitions on now in the New York public library are engravings by William Faithorne, recent additions to the library; printed collections of the fif-

teenth and sixteenth century engravings and the Parsons collection of early prints and books relating to railroads.

Steingrímur Stefánsson, formerly connected with the Newberry library, and for the last 15 years in the Library of Congress in Washington, died in that city, May 4. An appreciation of Mr Stefánsson as a man, a librarian and a scholar, by J. C. M. Hansen, of the University of Chicago library, will appear in the July number of *PUBLIC LIBRARIES*.

The Public library of Rochester, N. Y., had a section at the Rochester child welfare exhibit, held April 12. It occupied a conspicuous place and had its display in two divisions. The smaller one contained 10 charts, showing the activities of the library and the larger one was a children's library reading room fully equipped, and here the real activities of the library were carried on.

The twentieth annual report of the Free public library of Bayonne, N. J., records accessions during the year of 3,738 v. Total number of volumes, 31,407; new registration, 1,766; total registration, 11,417; circulation, 196,228 v. This was an increase of 27% over the previous year and an increase of 187% in five years. Expenditures, \$16,144, of which \$4,787 was for books and binding.

The Washington County free library of Hagerstown, Maryland, in its eleventh annual report, records a circulation of 103,371 v. for the year, an increase of 18,519 over that of 1911, total number of volumes now in the library, 22,024.

Work with the schools has progressed. Four of the five schools in the city have given the library space for books, and have set aside one period when teachers may consult with the library assistant who visits the schools once in two weeks.

The county extension work—the distinctly characteristic feature of the library—has been carried on by means of an automobile built to replace the old book wagon. There are now 26 routes covering the entire county. The library worker who goes out with the motor each

time, spends a busy day selecting books to suit the many different individuals. The automobile has made it possible to do more efficient work with the ungraded schools in the country. The library comes direct to the teacher, finds her needs, and fills them as nearly as possible.

A small but flourishing branch has been opened in Hancock, and the number of deposit stations in the county increased from 60 to 66. Small collections of books have been sent for extended periods to the hospital, the Board of Trade, and to various study clubs.

Central

Agnes B. Cooper, head cataloger, State agricultural college, Manhattan, Kansas, has resigned her position to accept a position in the catalog department of the Public library, Kansas City, Mo.

Adaline M. Baker, head cataloger in Northwestern university library, Evanston, Ill., since 1902, has accepted the position of head cataloger in the library of the State agricultural college, Manhattan, Kansas.

The twin public libraries of East Chicago and Indiana Harbor were opened to the people by public exercises held in the buildings, May 16-19. Addresses were made by President J. R. Farvid, E. N. Canine, superintendent of schools, Carl H. Milam, secretary of State library commission and M. E. Ahern, editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES. Miss Faulkner of Chicago held story hours for the children of the two towns.

The following gentlemen have been invited and accepted the invitation to serve as a jury on the architectural competition for the new main library building in Detroit, which will take place June 2: Prof Paul Phillippe Cret, professor of architectural designing, University of Pennsylvania; John Lawrence Mauran, architect, member of the Board of Trustees of the Public library, St. Louis, Mo.; Dr Herbert Putnam, librarian of Congress, Washington, D. C.

A traveling exhibit of the work of Indiana artists is being hung in a number of the public libraries of that state, under

the auspices of the Indiana State federation of clubs. There is very good co-operation between the Federation and the Public library commission of Indiana, which is making a specialty of exhibits for libraries this year as a part of their plan of the socialization of the library. The exhibits are creating new interest in the libraries.

The new Matson public library building, Princeton, Ill., was dedicated Friday, April 25, with appropriate ceremonies. George B. Utley, secretary of the American library association, delivered the principal address.

The Matson library was founded by Nehemiah Matson, a wealthy pioneer of Princeton, who died in 1883.

The library has had a steady growth and the dedication of the new \$23,000 building opens for it a still more prosperous career.

The annual report of the Public library of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, records an accession of 3,302 v., making a total in the library of 27,497 v. The circulation was 80,075 v. adult, 42,616 v. juvenile and 40,963 v. through the schools, a total of 163,654 v.; cardholders, 12,397; income from taxes, \$12,512.

Two townships made a contract with the library and books were placed in the rural schools of the township. Deposit stations are located in several of the factories. Placards announcing the chief features of the library are placed in the street cars.

Whenever the films in the moving picture shows were of a literary character, a slide advertising the library was shown also.

The tax levy for the coming year was increased from 1.8 to 1.9 mills.

The report of the Public library of Lawrence, Kans., records a delay in many of the necessary details of administration, such as cataloging, filing, repairing, etc., owing to the lack of sufficient help. Notwithstanding this, there has been an increased circulation and reference use of the library. The total circulation for the year was 48,804 v.;

with 11,526 v. in the circulating collection.

The age limit of juvenile cards was removed and the age limit of adult cards was lowered. There are 3,870 active cardholders.

The usual course of library talks in the high school were given in the year.

In the children's story hour, the grade of stories told was placed at a high level. They included Spencer's *Fairy Queen*, continued from week to week as a serial. *Undine*, *The pied piper of Hamelin*, *King of the golden river*, and a few others. An interesting result has seemed to be the development of the children's mental capacity, as evidenced by the fact that the classics are more popular now than the simpler stories were formerly, and have the attention of even the youngest listeners.

The new public library building at Sioux City, Iowa, recently opened to the public, is meeting every expectation, not only in its service but in the increase of interest and coöperation on the part of the community. It is safe to say that the council, the commercial bodies and professional people generally have not been so interested in the Sioux City public library before.

At the opening exercises, every interest in the community was represented in the reception committee, and the opening was a most delightful and satisfactory occasion in every way.

Jeannette M. Drake (B. L. S., Ill.), formerly connected with libraries in Illinois and Wisconsin, took the librarianship in 1910 on condition of being given a free hand in her administrative efforts. Her work in the meantime has revolutionized conditions, not only materially, as witnessed by the new library building, but in interesting various parts of the community in the library.

The new building is the result of a gift of \$75,000 from the Carnegie Foundation, and was built from the plans of Edward L. Tilton, the New York architect.

The site of the building was a gift of the city, which will be made eventually

into a very effective setting for the Italian Renaissance architecture that is freely developed in the library building.

The interior plan of the library is the work of Miss Drake, and is arranged for the greatest convenience and efficiency for public service.

The different societies, lodges and associations of Sioux City have pledged themselves to furnish the library with pictures, sculptures and other decorations. The D. A. R. has already presented the picture of Daniel French's statue of Alice Freeman Palmer, which has been hung in the reading room.

South

The private library of Colonel Durrett of Louisville, Ky., consisting of about 30,000 pieces, many of them rare editions of Americana, has been secured by the library of the University of Chicago.

A bronze bust of Louisville's distinguished poet, Madison J. Cawein, was unveiled and formally presented to the Louisville public library, by the Literature club, one of the oldest woman's clubs of the city, on Friday evening, April 25.

A resolution has just been passed by City Council of Atlanta, Georgia, appointing the Board of Trustees of Carnegie library censors of all moving picture and vaudeville shows. All films are to be exhibited before the Board of Censors, and all vaudeville acts shown, before public presentation is permitted.

The annual report of the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical college library, shows that it has more than doubled in eight years. The accessions during the past year were 1,816 v. and the circulation outside of the library was 10,034 v., and 1,926 unbound periodicals. The library received 400 current periodicals. The student enrollment is about 1,200.

The annual report of the Rosenberg library of Galveston, Texas, for its ninth year (1912), reports a total circulation for home use of 76,915 v. The library has a total of about 47,000 v.

The work of the lecture department

has been emphasized, such work being considered by the library as one of its most useful and important activities. During eight years, about 150 free instructive lectures have been given, with the unusually large average attendance of about 450 persons at each lecture. A high standard of merit in such lectures is regarded as very important. The use of the books on the subjects of the lectures is strongly encouraged.

All the privileges of the library are free. The institution is supported entirely by its endowment fund of \$600,000.

The Louisiana state library association, as far as its means will allow, has undertaken to provide traveling libraries for the rural communities. With the help of the Louisiana teachers' association, the Library association hopes to obtain from the next general assembly a State library commission for Louisiana and an appropriation for the sending out of traveling libraries, together with such other means of library extension as such commission might undertake. The cause is a worthy one, and it is to be hoped that success will crown their efforts.

West

Frances Davis has been appointed state librarian of Wyoming by order of Governor Joseph M. Cary, to succeed Mrs Clara Bond.

Lilly M. E. Borresen, for some time librarian of Two Harbors, Minn., has been appointed in charge of the new Traveling library department to be developed by the recently appointed State library commission of South Dakota.

The biennial report of the Idaho State library commission contains explicit directions for obtaining traveling libraries, gives the law governing the State library commission and the rules and regulations for borrowers, a list of stations and librarians, together with lists of books in the various traveling library cases. The State library commission report includes also reports from the libraries of the state, so far as their statistics of receipts and expenditures are concerned.

An additional gift of \$10,000 from Frederick Billings, Jr., of New York City, was given in his will to the Parmly Billings library of Billings, Mont. The clause of the will making the bequest states that the "income only is to be used for the support and maintenance, including the purchase of additional books and equipment." Mr. Billings' original gift for the library was \$25,000, and \$8,000 more was given later for the addition for a children's room, recently completed.

Pacific Coast

The Multnomah county library building in Portland, Ore., will be completed in June, and it is expected that the library will be able to occupy it shortly thereafter.

Robert Rea, for some time acting librarian of the Public library of San Francisco, has been appointed chief librarian.

The staff of the library expressed its pleasure at the appointment by tendering a banquet to Mr Rea.

Mary L. Jones, since 1906 librarian of Bryn Mawr college, has resigned her position, to take effect at the end of the school year. Miss Jones was formerly librarian of the Public library of Los Angeles where her home is, and she will return there for future residence.

Canada.

The annual report of the Public library of Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, for 1912, shows a circulation of 57,675 v., with 6,950 v. on the shelves, exclusive of the reference department.

In May last, the library occupied a new building, the gift of Mr Carnegie, which had been erected at a cost of \$50,000, exclusive of furnishings. It had hardly been opened when it was severely damaged by the tornado which struck a portion of Regina on June 30, causing damage to the building to the extent of nearly \$10,000 and rendering the whole of the main floor of the library unusable. The damage was, however, quickly repaired, but the circulation was seriously interfered with by this disaster.

A feature of the children's department